



General Assembly

Distr.: General
3 March 2009

Sixty-third session
Agenda item 50

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

[on the report of the Second Committee (A/63/415)]

63/221. Implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) and strengthening of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 3327 (XXIX) of 16 December 1974, 32/162 of 19 December 1977, 34/115 of 14 December 1979, 56/205 and 56/206 of 21 December 2001, 57/275 of 20 December 2002, 58/226 and 58/227 of 23 December 2003, 59/239 of 22 December 2004, 60/203 of 22 December 2005, 61/206 of 20 December 2006 and 62/198 of 19 December 2007,

Taking note of Economic and Social Council resolutions 2002/38 of 26 July 2002 and 2003/62 of 25 July 2003 and Council decisions 2004/300 of 23 July 2004, 2005/298 of 26 July 2005, 2006/247 of 27 July 2006, 2007/249 of 26 July 2007 and 2008/239 of 23 July 2008,

Recalling the goal contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration¹ of achieving a significant improvement in the lives of at least 100 million slum-dwellers by 2020 and the goal contained in the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development ("Johannesburg Plan of Implementation")² to halve, by 2015, the proportion of people who lack access to safe drinking water and sanitation,

Recalling also the Habitat Agenda,³ the Declaration on Cities and Other Human Settlements in the New Millennium,⁴ the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation and

¹ See resolution 55/2.

² *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 2, annex.

³ *Report of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II), Istanbul, 3–14 June 1996* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.97.IV.6), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

⁴ Resolution S-25/2, annex.

the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development,⁵

Recalling further the 2005 World Summit Outcome,⁶ which calls upon the States Members of the United Nations to achieve significant improvement in the lives of at least 100 million slum-dwellers by 2020, recognizing the urgent need for the provision of increased resources for affordable housing and housing-related infrastructure, prioritizing slum prevention and slum upgrading, and to encourage support for the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation and its Slum Upgrading Facility,

Recognizing the negative impact of environmental degradation, including climate change, desertification and loss of biodiversity, on human settlements,

Recognizing also that the current financial crisis could negatively affect the ability of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) to mobilize resources and promote the use of incentives and market measures as well as the mobilization of domestic and international financial resources for supporting private sector investment in affordable housing,

Noting the important contribution of UN-Habitat, within its mandate, to more cost-effective transitions between emergency relief, recovery and reconstruction, and also welcoming the decision to admit UN-Habitat to the Inter-Agency Standing Committee,

Recognizing the significance of the urban dimension of poverty eradication and the need to integrate water and sanitation and other issues within a comprehensive framework for sustainable development,

Recognizing also the importance of decentralization policies for achieving sustainable human settlements development in line with the Habitat Agenda and the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals,

Noting the progress so far made by UN-Habitat in the implementation of its Medium-term Strategic and Institutional Plan for the period 2008–2013,

Welcoming the efforts of UN-Habitat, as a non-resident agency and through its national Habitat programme managers, in helping programme countries to mainstream the Habitat Agenda in their development frameworks,

Expressing its appreciation to the Government of China and the city of Nanjing for hosting the fourth session of the World Urban Forum from 3 to 6 November 2008 and to the Government of Brazil for its offer to host the fifth session of the World Urban Forum in 2010,

Noting the efforts of UN-Habitat in strengthening its collaboration with the World Bank, the regional development banks and domestic financial institutions, ensuring that its policy advisory and capacity-building activities leverage investment finance to improve water and sanitation as entry point to the attainment of internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals,

⁵ *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18–22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution I, annex.

⁶ See resolution 60/1.

Recognizing the need for UN-Habitat to sharpen its focus on all areas within its mandate,

Recognizing also the continued need for increased and predictable financial contributions to the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation to ensure timely, effective and concrete global implementation of the Habitat Agenda, the Declaration on Cities and Other Human Settlements in the New Millennium and the relevant internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the Millennium Declaration and the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development⁷ and Johannesburg Plan of Implementation,

Recognizing further the progress being made by UN-Habitat in the development of the Experimental Reimbursable Seeding Operations Trust Fund of the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation, established by the Governing Council of UN-Habitat in its resolution 21/10,⁸

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the coordinated implementation of the Habitat Agenda⁹ and the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) and strengthening of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat);¹⁰

2. *Welcomes* the efforts of UN-Habitat in the implementation of its Medium-term Strategic and Institutional Plan for the period 2008–2013, and encourages Governments in a position to do so, and other stakeholders, to contribute to UN-Habitat so as to further strengthen its efforts in institutional reform and the pursuit of management excellence, including results-based management;

3. *Encourages* Governments to promote the principles and practice of sustainable urbanization and strengthen the role and contribution of their respective local authorities in applying those principles and practice, in order to improve the living conditions of vulnerable urban populations, including slum-dwellers and the urban poor, and as a major contribution to mitigating the causes of climate change, adapting to the effects of climate change and reducing risks and vulnerabilities in a rapidly urbanizing world, including human settlements in fragile ecosystems, and invites the international donor community to support the efforts of developing countries in this regard;

4. *Reiterates its call* for continued financial support to UN-Habitat through increased voluntary contributions, and invites Governments in a position to do so, and other stakeholders, to provide predictable multi-year funding and increased non-earmarked contributions to support the strategic and institutional objectives of the Medium-term Strategic and Institutional Plan for the period 2008–2013 and its Global Campaign on Sustainable Urbanization;

5. *Invites* the international donor community and financial institutions to contribute generously to the Water and Sanitation Trust Fund, the Slum Upgrading Facility and the technical cooperation trust funds to enable UN-Habitat to assist

⁷ *Report on the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

⁸ See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 8 (A/62/8)*, annex I, sect. B.

⁹ E/2008/64.

¹⁰ A/63/291.

developing countries in mobilizing public investment and private capital for slum upgrading, shelter and basic services;

6. *Also invites* the international donor community and financial institutions to contribute to the Experimental Reimbursable Seeding Operations Trust Fund of the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to keep the resource needs of UN-Habitat under review so as to enhance its effectiveness in supporting national policies, strategies and plans in attaining the poverty eradication, gender equality, water and sanitation and slum upgrading targets of the United Nations Millennium Declaration,¹ the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation² and the 2005 World Summit Outcome;⁶

8. *Calls upon* UN-Habitat to strengthen efforts to coordinate and implement its normative and operational activities through the enhanced normative and operational framework elaborated in the Medium-term Strategic and Institutional Plan, reinforcing its normative activities, and invites all countries in a position to do so to support the activities of UN-Habitat in this regard;

9. *Invites* UN-Habitat to enhance cooperation with regional and subregional organizations and to consider strengthening the strategic presence of its programmes in the regions in contributing to sustainable development programmes;

10. *Requests* UN-Habitat, within the framework of its experimental reimbursable seeding operations for housing finance, and in close collaboration with international and regional financial institutions, to document and disseminate lessons learned, bearing in mind the provisions of resolution 21/10 of the Governing Council of UN-Habitat,⁸ and fully taking into account the recent housing finance crisis, as well as other relevant factors;

11. *Invites* the Governing Council of UN-Habitat to keep under review developments in the housing finance systems in view of the current financial crisis, and decides to explore the possibility of convening a high-level event of the General Assembly on this subject;

12. *Encourages* Member States to strengthen or establish, as appropriate, broad-based national Habitat committees with a view to mainstreaming sustainable urbanization and urban poverty reduction in their respective national development strategies;

13. *Encourages* the Economic and Social Council to include sustainable urbanization, urban poverty reduction and slum upgrading as a cross-cutting issue in the follow-up to the outcome of relevant summits and major international conferences;

14. *Emphasizes* the importance of the Nairobi headquarters location of UN-Habitat, and requests the Secretary-General to keep the resource needs of UN-Habitat and the United Nations Office at Nairobi under review so as to permit the delivery, in an effective manner, of necessary services to UN-Habitat and the other United Nations organs and organizations in Nairobi;

15. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-fourth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

16. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-fourth session the item entitled "Implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference

on Human Settlements (Habitat II) and strengthening of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)".

*72nd plenary meeting
19 December 2008*



General Assembly

Distr.: General
10 March 2009

Sixty-third session
Agenda item 51 (a)

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

[on the report of the Second Committee (A/63/416/Add.1)]

63/222. Role of the United Nations in promoting development in the context of globalization and interdependence

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 53/169 of 15 December 1998, 54/231 of 22 December 1999, 55/212 of 20 December 2000, 56/209 of 21 December 2001, 57/274 of 20 December 2002, 58/225 of 23 December 2003, 59/240 of 22 December 2004, 60/204 of 22 December 2005, 61/207 of 20 December 2006 and 62/199 of 19 December 2007 on the role of the United Nations in promoting development in the context of globalization and interdependence,

Recalling also the 2005 World Summit Outcome¹ and all relevant General Assembly resolutions, in particular those that have built upon the 2005 World Summit Outcome, in the economic, social and related fields, including resolution 60/265 of 30 June 2006 on follow-up to the development outcome of the 2005 World Summit, including the Millennium Development Goals and the other internationally agreed development goals,

Reaffirming that the United Nations has a central role in promoting international cooperation for development and in promoting policy coherence on global development issues, including in the context of globalization and interdependence,

Reaffirming also the resolve expressed in the United Nations Millennium Declaration² to ensure that globalization works as a positive force for all,

Recognizing that all human rights are universal, indivisible, interdependent and interrelated,

Recognizing also that globalization, driven largely by economic liberalization and technology, implies that the economic performance of a country is increasingly affected by factors outside its geographical borders and that maximizing in an equitable manner the benefits of globalization requires developing responses to globalization through a strengthened global partnership for development to achieve the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals,

¹ See resolution 60/1.

² See resolution 55/2.

Expressing concern that the number of people living in poverty is higher than previously estimated,³ despite significant progress, and that the current financial and food insecurity crises and unpredictable energy prices may pose significant challenges for the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals,

Recognizing that domestic economies are now interwoven with the global economy and that globalization affects all countries in different ways, and that countries on the one hand have trade and investment opportunities to, inter alia, fight poverty, while on the other hand they face constraints in the degree of flexibility they have in pursuing their national development strategies,

Reaffirming its strong support for fair and inclusive globalization and the need to translate growth into reduction of poverty and, in this regard, its resolve to make the goals of full and productive employment and decent work for all, including for women and young people, a central objective of relevant national and international policies as well as national development strategies, including poverty reduction strategies, as part of efforts to achieve the Millennium Development Goals,

Noting that particular attention must be given, in the context of globalization, to the objective of protecting, promoting and enhancing the rights and welfare of women and girls, as stated in the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action,⁴

Reaffirming its commitment to governance, equity and transparency in the financial, monetary and trading systems and its commitment to open, equitable, rule-based, predictable and non-discriminatory multilateral trading and financial systems,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;⁵
2. *Expresses deep concern* at the impact of the current financial crisis and global economic slowdown on the ability of developing countries to gain access to the financing necessary for their development objectives, and underlines the fact that developing countries and countries with economies in transition risk suffering very serious setbacks to their development objectives, in particular the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals;
3. *Recognizes* the measures adopted by Governments to address the present financial crisis, and, in that regard, calls upon all countries to manage their macroeconomic and financial policies in ways that contribute to global stability and sustained economic growth and sustainable development;
4. *Also recognizes* that greater coherence is required among the macroeconomic, trade, aid, financial, environmental and gender-equality policies to support the common aim of ensuring that globalization works as a positive force for all;
5. *Further recognizes* that new and highly globalized financial instruments continue to change the nature of risks in the world economy, requiring continuing enhancement of market oversight and regulation, and underlines the fact that, to

³ World Bank estimates, as at August 2008, calculated using a revised poverty line.

⁴ *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4-15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution I, annexes I and II.

⁵ A/63/333.

strengthen the resilience of the international financial system, reforms will need to be implemented that will strengthen the regulatory and supervisory frameworks of financial markets;

6. *Underlines* the fact that economies exist in a globalizing world where the emergence of rule-based regimes for international economic relations has meant that the space for national economic policy, that is to say the scope for domestic policies, especially in the areas of trade, investment and industrial development, is now often framed by international disciplines, commitments and global market considerations, that it is for each Government to evaluate the trade-off between the benefits of accepting international rules and commitments and the constraints posed by the loss of policy space, and that it is particularly important for developing countries, bearing in mind development goals and objectives, that all countries take into account the need for appropriate balance between national policy space and international disciplines and commitments, and, in this regard, notes with appreciation the outcome of the twelfth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, held in Accra from 20 to 25 April 2008;⁶

7. *Reaffirms* that good governance is essential for sustainable development, that sound economic policies, solid democratic institutions responsive to the needs of the people and improved infrastructure are the basis for sustained economic growth, poverty eradication and employment creation, and that freedom, peace and security, domestic stability, respect for human rights, including the right to development, and the rule of law, gender equality, market-oriented policies and an overall commitment to just and democratic societies are also essential and mutually reinforcing;

8. *Also reaffirms* that good governance at the international level is fundamental for achieving sustainable development, that, in order to ensure a dynamic and enabling international economic environment, it is important to promote global economic governance by addressing the international finance, trade, technology and investment patterns that have an impact on the development prospects of developing countries and that, to this end, the international community should take all necessary and appropriate measures, including ensuring support for structural and macroeconomic reform, a comprehensive solution to the external debt problem and increasing the market access of developing countries;

9. *Further reaffirms* that each country has primary responsibility for its own development, that the role of national policies and development strategies cannot be overemphasized in the achievement of sustainable development, and that national efforts should be complemented by supportive global programmes, measures and policies aimed at expanding the development opportunities of developing countries, while taking into account national conditions and ensuring respect for national ownership, strategies and sovereignty;

10. *Reaffirms* the commitment to broaden and strengthen the participation of developing countries and countries with economies in transition in international economic decision-making and norm-setting, stresses, to that end, the importance of continuing efforts to reform the international financial architecture, noting that enhancing the voice and participation of developing countries and countries with economies in transition in the Bretton Woods institutions remains a continuous concern, and calls in this regard for further and effective progress;

⁶ See TD/442 and Corr.1.

11. *Stresses* the need for increased support for investment in agricultural productivity, particularly in developing countries, in order to achieve the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals;

12. *Encourages* all development partners to help to strengthen and support the national health and education policies and plans of developing countries by providing assistance and funding in accordance with their development needs and priorities;

13. *Calls upon* Governments to assign a high priority to education, including by establishing institutions, in particular for basic education and vocational training, and improving access to and the quality of primary, secondary and tertiary education, including by developing a clear vision for the long-term development of a comprehensive, diversified and well-articulated tertiary education system;

14. *Calls upon* countries to increase public expenditure and encourage greater private and community investment to achieve international goals and targets in the areas of health, nutrition and sanitation consistent with public policy objectives related to equitable access as well as meeting the specific health goals of reducing child and maternal mortality and reducing the spread of diseases such as HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria;

15. *Calls upon* all countries to promote sustainable consumption and production patterns, with the developed countries taking the lead and all countries benefiting from the process, taking into account the Rio principles, including, inter alia, the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities as set out in principle 7 of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development;⁷

16. *Stresses* the need for all countries to harness knowledge and technology and stimulate innovation if they are to improve their competitiveness and benefit from trade and investment, and in this regard underlines the importance of concrete actions to facilitate technology transfer under fair, transparent and mutually agreed terms to developing countries in support of the implementation of their sustainable development strategies;

17. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-fourth session a report on the theme "Globalization and interdependence: the role of the United Nations in poverty reduction and sustainable development" under the item entitled "Globalization and interdependence";

18. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-fourth session, under the item entitled "Globalization and interdependence", the sub-item entitled "Role of the United Nations in promoting development in the context of globalization and interdependence".

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⁷ Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.1.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex I.



General Assembly

Distr.: General
3 March 2009

Sixty-third session
Agenda item 51 (a)

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

[on the report of the Second Committee (A/63.416/Add.1)]

63/223. Development cooperation with middle-income countries

The General Assembly,

Recalling the outcomes of the United Nations major international conferences and summits, including the United Nations Millennium Declaration¹ and the 2005 World Summit Outcome,² as well as the relevant provisions of General Assembly resolutions,

Reaffirming its resolution 62/208 of 19 December 2007, entitled “Triennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system”, in which it recognized that middle-income developing countries still face significant challenges in the area of poverty eradication and that efforts to address those challenges should be supported in order to ensure that achievements made to date are sustained, including through support to the effective development of comprehensive cooperation policies,

Emphasizing that middle-income countries must take primary responsibility for their own development, and that their national efforts should be complemented by supportive global programmes, measures and policies aimed at expanding the development opportunities of middle-income countries, while taking into account their specific national conditions,

Noting that national averages based on criteria such as per capita income do not always reflect the actual particularities and development needs of the middle-income countries, and recognizing the significant diversity of middle-income countries,

Taking note of the outcomes of the international conferences on development cooperation with middle-income countries held in Madrid,³ El Salvador⁴ and

¹ See resolution 55/2.

² See resolution 60/1.

³ See A/62/71-E/2007/46.

⁴ See A/62/483-E/2007/90.

Windhoek,⁵ and the regional conference on the theme "Increasing the competitiveness of African middle-income countries", held in Cairo.⁶

1. *Recognizes* that middle-income countries still face significant challenges in their efforts to achieve the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, and, in that regard, underlines the importance of international support, through various forms, that is well aligned with national priorities, to address the development needs of middle-income countries;

2. *Acknowledges* the efforts made and successes achieved by many middle-income countries to eradicate poverty and achieve the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, as well as their significant contribution to global and regional development and economic stability;

3. *Recognizes* the solidarity of middle-income countries with other developing countries with a view to supporting their development efforts, including in the context of South-South and triangular cooperation;

4. *Invites* the United Nations development system to support middle-income countries, as appropriate, and to improve its coordination and exchange of experiences with other international organizations, international financial institutions and regional organizations in this field;

5. *Acknowledges* the initiative of middle-income countries to hold follow-up conferences and other meetings regarding their development on a yearly basis, and, in this regard, requests the United Nations system to continue supporting these endeavours in collaboration with other relevant international organizations;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a comprehensive report on the implementation of all the elements of the present resolution to the General Assembly at its sixty-fourth session under the item entitled "Globalization and interdependence", with a focus on existing strategies and actions of the United Nations development system on development cooperation with middle-income countries, and taking into account the work of other relevant international organizations, including international financial institutions.

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⁵ See A/C.2/63/3.

⁶ Held on 11 and 12 March 2008 to discuss how the World Bank and the African Development Bank can better align their services to the needs of the middle-income countries in Africa.



General Assembly

Distr.: General
10 March 2009

Sixty-third session
Agenda item 51 (a)

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

[on the report of the Second Committee (A/63/416/Add.1)]

63/224. Towards a New International Economic Order

The General Assembly,

Bearing in mind the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations to promote the economic advancement and social progress of all peoples,

Recalling the principles of the Declaration on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order and the Programme of Action on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order, as set out in resolutions 3201 (S-VI) and 3202 (S-VI), respectively, adopted by the General Assembly at its sixth special session, on 1 May 1974,

Taking into account the fact that the year 2009 marks the thirty-fifth anniversary of the adoption of the Declaration and the Programme of Action,

Reaffirming the United Nations Millennium Declaration,¹

Recalling the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social and related fields, including the development goals and objectives contained therein, and recognizing the vital role played by those conferences and summits in shaping a broad development vision and in identifying commonly agreed objectives,

Concerned that the current international economic, financial, energy and food crises, as well as the challenges posed by climate change, aggravate the existing international situation and have a negative impact on the development prospects of developing countries, while threatening to further widen the gap between developed and developing countries, including the technological and income gap,

1. *Reaffirms* the need to continue working towards a new international economic order based on the principles of equity, sovereign equality, interdependence, common interest, cooperation and solidarity among all States;

2. *Decides* to consider in depth the international economic situation and its impact on development during the sixty-fourth session of the General Assembly, and in that regard requests the Secretary-General to include in his next report, under the item entitled "Globalization and interdependence", an overview of the major

¹ See resolution 55/2.

international economic and policy challenges for equitable and inclusive sustained economic growth and sustainable development, and of the role of the United Nations in addressing these issues, in the light of the relevant principles contained in the Declaration on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order and the Programme of Action on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order.

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19 December 2008*



General Assembly

Distr.: General
10 March 2009

Sixty-third session
Agenda item 51 (b)

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

[on the report of the Second Committee (A/63/416/Add.2)]

63/225. International migration and development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 58/208 of 23 December 2003, 59/241 of 22 December 2004, 60/227 of 23 December 2005, 60/206 of 22 December 2005 on the facilitation and reduction of the cost of transfer of migrant remittances, 62/156 of 18 December 2007 on the protection of migrants, 62/270 of 20 June 2008 on the Global Forum on Migration and Development and 61/208 of 20 December 2006 on international migration and development,

Recalling also the 2005 World Summit Outcome¹ and its resolution 60/265 of 30 June 2006 on the follow-up to the development outcome of the 2005 World Summit, including the Millennium Development Goals and the other internationally agreed development goals, and taking note of the Doha Declaration on Financing for Development, adopted on 2 December 2008,²

Recalling further its resolution 57/270 B of 23 June 2003 on the integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic and social fields,

Reaffirming the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,³ and recalling the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,⁴ the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,⁴ the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination,⁵ the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,⁶ and the Convention on the Rights of the Child,⁷

¹ See resolution 60/1.

² A/CONF.212/L.1/Rev.1.

³ Resolution 217 A (III).

⁴ See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

⁵ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 660, No. 9464.

⁶ *Ibid.*, vol. 1249, No. 20378.

⁷ *Ibid.*, vol. 1577, No. 27531.

Recalling the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families,⁸ and the invitation to Member States that have not yet done so to consider signing and ratifying or acceding to the Convention,

Recalling also the importance of the decent work agenda of the International Labour Organization, including for migrant workers, and the eight fundamental Conventions of the International Labour Organization,

Recalling further Commission on Population and Development resolution 2006/2 of 10 May 2006,⁹

Bearing in mind the summary by the President of the General Assembly of the 2006 High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development,¹⁰

Acknowledging that the High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development provided a useful opportunity to address constructively the issue of international migration and development and heightened awareness on the issue,

Acknowledging also the important nexus between international migration and development and the need to deal with the challenges and opportunities that migration presents to countries of origin, transit and destination, and recognizing that migration brings benefits as well as challenges to the global community,

Acknowledging further the important contribution provided by migrants and migration to development, as well as the complex interrelationship between migration and development,

Recognizing that remittance flows constitute sources of private capital and that remittances have increased over time, complement domestic savings and are instrumental in improving the well-being of recipients,

1. *Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General;¹¹*
2. *Encourages efforts by Member States and the international community to promote a balanced, coherent and comprehensive approach to international migration and development, particularly by building partnerships and ensuring coordinated action to develop capacities, including for the management of migration;*
3. *Emphasizes that respect for the human rights and fundamental freedoms of all migrants is essential for reaping the benefits of international migration;*
4. *Recognizes with appreciation the important contribution made by migrants and migration to development in countries of origin and destination;*
5. *Takes note of the Global Forum on Migration and Development, which held its first meeting in Brussels from 9 to 11 July 2007, and its second meeting in Manila from 27 to 30 October 2008, as an informal, voluntary, open, State-led initiative, and also takes note of the generous offer of the Government of Greece to host the third meeting of the Global Forum, to be held in Athens on 4 and 5 November 2009, as well as the offers of other Governments to hold subsequent meetings of the Forum;*

⁸ Ibid., vol. 2220 No. 39481.

⁹ See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2006, Supplement No. 5 (E/2006/25), chap. I, sect. B.*

¹⁰ A/61/515.

¹¹ A/63/265 and Corr.1.

6. *Invites* the countries of origin and destination, in accordance with domestic legislation, to undertake appropriate measures to facilitate the contribution of migrants and migrant communities to the development of their countries of origin;

7. *Recognizes* the need for Member States to continue considering the multidimensional aspects of international migration and development in order to identify appropriate ways and means of maximizing the development benefits and minimizing the negative impacts;

8. *Reaffirms* that there is a need to address and promote conditions for cheaper, faster and safer transfers of remittances in both source and recipient countries and, as appropriate, to encourage opportunities for development-oriented investment in recipient countries by beneficiaries that are willing and able to undertake such action, bearing in mind that remittances cannot be considered a substitute for foreign direct investment, official development assistance, debt relief or other public sources of financing for development;

9. *Reiterates* the need to consider how the migration of highly skilled persons and those with advanced education affects the development efforts of developing countries;

10. *Acknowledges* the need to analyse the impact of certain forms of temporary migration, circular migration and return migration on the development of countries of origin, transit and destination, as well as on migrants themselves;

11. *Urges* Member States and relevant international organizations to incorporate a gender perspective in all policies and programmes on international migration in order to, inter alia, reinforce the positive contributions that migrant women can make to the economic, social and human development of their countries of origin and their host countries, and to strengthen the protection of women migrants from all forms of violence, discrimination, trafficking, exploitation and abuse by promoting their rights and welfare, while recognizing in this regard the importance of joint and collaborative approaches and strategies at the bilateral, regional, interregional and international levels;

12. *Requests* all Member States, in accordance with their relevant international obligations and commitments, to promote cooperation at all levels in addressing the challenge of undocumented or irregular migration so as to foster a secure, regular and orderly process of migration;

13. *Calls upon* all relevant bodies, agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system, and other relevant intergovernmental, regional and subregional organizations, including the Global Migration Group, within their respective mandates, to continue to address the issue of international migration and development, with a view to integrating migration issues, including a gender perspective and cultural diversity, in a more coherent way, within the context of the implementation of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, and with respect for human rights;

14. *Calls upon* the United Nations system and other relevant international organizations and multilateral institutions to enhance their cooperation in the development of methodologies for the collection and processing of statistical data on international migration and the situation of migrants in countries of origin, transit and destination and to assist Member States in their capacity-building efforts in this regard;

15. *Encourages* the United Nations system and other relevant international organizations to support developing countries in their efforts to address migration issues within their respective development strategies in the context of the implementation of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals;

16. *Decides* to hold, within existing resources, a High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development during its sixty-eighth session, in 2013, the focus and modalities of which will be decided upon at its sixty-seventh session;

17. *Also decides* to convene, within existing resources, at its sixty-fifth session, in 2011, a one-day informal thematic debate on international migration and development;

18. *Further decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-fifth session the sub-item entitled "International migration and development";

19. *Invites* the regional commissions to examine regional aspects of international migration and development and to provide inputs, in accordance with respective mandates and within existing resources, to the report of the Secretary-General on this item;

20. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution.

72nd plenary meeting
19 December 2008



General Assembly

Distr.: General
10 March 2009

Sixty-third session
Agenda item 51 (d)

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

[on the report of the Second Committee (A/63/416/Add.4)]

63/226. Preventing and combating corrupt practices and transfer of assets of illicit origin and returning such assets, in particular to the countries of origin, consistent with the United Nations Convention against Corruption

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 54/205 of 22 December 1999, 55/188 of 20 December 2000, 56/186 of 21 December 2001 and 57/244 of 20 December 2002, 58/205 of 23 December 2003, 59/242 of 22 December 2004, 60/207 of 22 December 2005, 61/209 of 20 December 2006 and 62/202 of 19 December 2007,

Welcoming the entry into force on 14 December 2005 of the United Nations Convention against Corruption,¹

Welcoming also the convening of the second session of the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption, in Nusa Dua, Indonesia, from 28 January to 1 February 2008, and stressing the need for States parties to take steps to implement the outcome of that Conference,

Recalling the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development,² which underlined that fighting corruption at all levels is a priority, and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development ("Johannesburg Plan of Implementation"),³

Recognizing that fighting corruption at all levels is a priority and that corruption is a serious barrier to effective resource mobilization and allocation and diverts resources away from activities that are vital for poverty eradication, the fight against hunger, and economic and sustainable development,

Emphasizing the need for solid democratic institutions responsive to the needs of the people and the need to improve the efficiency, transparency and

¹ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2349, No. 42146.

² *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18-22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution I, annex.

³ *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August-4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 2, annex.

accountability of domestic administration and public spending and the rule of law, to ensure full respect for human rights, including the right to development, and to eradicate corruption and build sound economic and social institutions,

Recalling that the fight against all forms of corruption requires strong institutions at all levels, including at the local level, able to undertake efficient preventive and law enforcement measures consistent with the United Nations Convention against Corruption, in particular chapters II and III,

Determined to prevent, detect and deter in a more effective manner international transfers of illicitly acquired assets and to strengthen international cooperation on asset recovery, consistent with the Convention,

Reiterating its concern about the seriousness of problems and threats posed by corruption to the stability and security of societies, undermining the institutions and the values of democracy, ethical values and justice and jeopardizing sustainable development and the rule of law, in particular when an inadequate national and international response leads to impunity,

Convinced that corruption is no longer a local matter but a transnational phenomenon that affects all societies and economies, making international cooperation to prevent and control it essential,

Convinced also that a stable and transparent environment for national and international commercial transactions in all countries is essential for the mobilization of investment, finance, technology, skills and other important resources, and recognizing that effective efforts at all levels to prevent and combat corruption in all its forms in all countries are essential elements of an improved national and international business environment,

Mindful of the very important role that the private sector can play in fostering economic growth and development and of the active involvement of the United Nations system in facilitating the constructive participation and orderly interaction of the private sector in the development process by embracing universal principles and norms, such as honesty, transparency and accountability,

Recognizing the concern about the laundering and the transfer of assets of illicit origin derived from corruption, and stressing the need to address this concern consistent with the Convention,

Concerned about the links between corruption in all its forms, including bribery, corruption-related money-laundering and the transfer of assets of illicit origin, and other forms of crime, in particular organized crime and economic crime,

Noting the particular concern of developing countries and countries with economies in transition regarding the return of assets of illicit origin derived from corruption, in particular to countries from which they originated, consistent with the principles of the Convention, in particular chapter V, so as to enable countries to design and fund development projects in accordance with their national priorities, in view of the importance that such assets can have to their sustainable development,

Noting also that corrupt practices include public funds being illegally acquired, transferred, invested abroad or laundered,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;⁴

⁴ A/63/88.

2. *Expresses concern* about the magnitude of corruption at all levels, including the scale of the transfer of assets of illicit origin derived from corruption, and in this regard reiterates its commitment to preventing and combating corrupt practices at all levels, consistent with the United Nations Convention against Corruption;¹

3. *Condemns* corruption in all its forms, including bribery, as well as the laundering of proceeds of corruption and other forms of economic crime;

4. *Urges* all Governments to combat and penalize corruption in all its forms as well as the laundering of proceeds of corruption, to prevent the transfer of illicitly acquired assets, and to work for the prompt return of such assets through asset recovery consistent with the principles of the Convention, particularly chapter V;

5. *Stresses* the need for transparency in financial institutions, invites Member States to work on the identification and tracing of financial flows linked to corruption, the freezing or seizing of assets derived from corruption and the return of such assets, consistent with the Convention, and encourages the promotion of human and institutional capacity-building in this regard;

6. *Affirms* the need for Member States, consistent with the Convention, to take measures to prevent the transfer abroad and laundering of assets derived from corruption, including to prevent the financial institutions in both countries of origin and destination from being used to transfer or receive illicit funds, as well as to assist in their recovery and to return such assets to the requesting State, consistent with the Convention;

7. *Stresses* the importance of mutual legal assistance, and encourages Member States to enhance international cooperation, consistent with the Convention;

8. *Welcomes* the high number of Member States that have already ratified or acceded to the Convention, and in this regard urges all Member States and competent regional economic integration organizations, within the limits of their competence, that have not yet done so to consider ratifying or acceding to the Convention as a matter of priority, and calls upon all States parties to fully implement the Convention as soon as possible;

9. *Calls upon* States parties to continue to support the work carried out by the Open-ended Intergovernmental Expert Working Groups on Asset Recovery, Technical Assistance and Review of Implementation in order to facilitate the full implementation of the Convention, and the review thereof, and in this regard encourages the Conference of the States Parties to the Convention at its third session to consider the recommendations prepared by the three working groups, including the terms of reference for a review mechanism;

10. *Welcomes* the responses already received to the self-assessment checklist on the implementation of the Convention, and encourages all States parties that have not yet done so to submit the self-assessment checklist to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime;

11. *Also welcomes* the efforts of Member States that have enacted laws and taken other positive measures in the fight against corruption in all its forms, including in accordance with the Convention, and in this regard encourages Member States that have not yet done so to enact such laws and to implement effective

measures at the national level and, in accordance with domestic law and policies, at the local level, to prevent and combat corruption;

12. *Takes note with appreciation* of the Stolen Asset Recovery Initiative of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the World Bank, takes note of its cooperation with relevant partners, including the International Centre for Asset Recovery, and encourages coordination among existing initiatives;

13. *Calls for* further international cooperation, inter alia, through the United Nations system, in support of national, subregional and regional efforts to prevent and combat corrupt practices and the transfer of assets of illicit origin, consistent with the principles of the Convention, and in this regard encourages close cooperation between anti-corruption agencies, law enforcement agencies and financial intelligence units;

14. *Urges* all Member States, consistent with the Convention, to abide by the principles of proper management of public affairs and public property, fairness, responsibility and equality before the law and the need to safeguard integrity and to foster a culture of transparency, accountability and rejection of corruption;

15. *Encourages* Member States to provide adequate financial and human resources to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, including for the effective implementation of the Convention, and also encourages the Office to give high priority to technical cooperation, upon request, inter alia, to promote and facilitate the ratification, acceptance, approval of or accession to, and the implementation of, the Convention;

16. *Requests* the international community to provide, inter alia, technical assistance to support national efforts to strengthen human and institutional capacity aimed at preventing and combating corrupt practices and the transfer of assets of illicit origin as well as for asset recovery consistent with the principles of the Convention, particularly chapter V, and to support national efforts in formulating strategies for mainstreaming and promoting transparency and integrity in both the public and the private sectors;

17. *Encourages* Member States that have not yet done so to require financial institutions to properly implement comprehensive due diligence and vigilance programmes, consistent with the principles of the Convention and those of other relevant applicable instruments;

18. *Reiterates its call upon* the private sector, at both the international and the national levels, including small and large companies and transnational corporations, to remain fully engaged in the fight against corruption, notes in this context the role that the Global Compact can play in fighting corruption and promoting transparency, and emphasizes the need for all relevant stakeholders, including within the United Nations system, as appropriate, to continue to promote corporate responsibility and accountability;

19. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to provide the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime with the resources necessary to enable it to promote, in an effective manner, the implementation of the Convention and to discharge its functions as the secretariat of the Conference of the States Parties to the Convention, in accordance with its mandate;

20. *Takes note* of the offer of the Government of Qatar to host the third session of the Conference of the States Parties to the Convention in 2009, and

invites all States parties and signatories to take measures aimed at promoting the full and effective implementation of the Convention;

21. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly, at its sixty-fourth session, a report on the implementation of the present resolution and also to transmit to the Assembly a report on the third session of the Conference of the States Parties to the Convention;

22. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-fourth session, under the item entitled "Globalization and interdependence", the sub-item entitled "Preventing and combating corrupt practices and transfer of assets of illicit origin and returning such assets, in particular to the countries of origin, consistent with the United Nations Convention against Corruption".

*72nd plenary meeting
19 December 2008*



General Assembly

Distr.: General
10 March 2009

Sixty-third session
Agenda item 52 (a)

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

[on the report of the Second Committee (A/63/417/Add.1)]

63/227. Implementation of the Brussels Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001–2010

The General Assembly,

Recalling the Brussels Declaration¹ and the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001–2010,²

Recalling also the United Nations Millennium Declaration,³

Recalling further its resolution 57/270 B of 23 June 2003 on the integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic and social fields,

Recalling the 2005 World Summit Outcome,⁴

Recalling also its resolution 62/203 of 19 December 2007,

Taking note of Economic and Social Council resolution 2008/37 of 25 July 2008,

Taking note also of the Ministerial Declaration adopted at the Annual Meeting of Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the Least Developed Countries on 29 September 2008 in New York,⁵

Reaffirming that the Programme of Action constitutes a fundamental framework for a strong global partnership, whose goal is to accelerate sustained economic growth, sustainable development and poverty eradication in the least developed countries,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General⁶ and his note on the modalities of the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries;⁷

¹ A/CONF.191/13, chap I.

² Ibid., chap. II.

³ See resolution 55/2.

⁴ See resolution 60/1.

⁵ A/C.2/63/8, annex.

⁶ A/63/77-E/2008/61.

⁷ A/63/284.

2. *Welcomes* the contributions made in the lead-up to the midterm comprehensive global review of the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001–2010,² and notes the Cotonou Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001–2010³ as an initiative owned and led by the least developed countries;

3. *Also welcomes* the Declaration⁴ adopted by Heads of State and Government and heads of delegations participating in the high-level meeting of the sixty-first session of the General Assembly on the midterm comprehensive global review of the implementation of the Programme of Action, in which they recommitted themselves to addressing the special needs of the least developed countries by making progress towards the goals of poverty eradication, peace and development;

4. *Decides* to convene, as called for in paragraph 114 of the Programme of Action, the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries at a high level in 2011 for a duration of not more than five working days, with the following mandate:

(a) To undertake a comprehensive appraisal of the implementation of the Programme of Action by the least developed countries and their development partners, share best practices and lessons learned, and identify obstacles and constraints encountered as well as actions and initiatives needed to overcome them;

(b) To identify effective international and domestic policies in the light of the outcome of the appraisal as well as new and emerging challenges and opportunities and the means to address them;

(c) To reaffirm the global commitment to addressing the special needs of the least developed countries made at the major United Nations conferences and summits, including the Millennium Summit and the 2005 World Summit, in particular the needs related to sustainable development in its economic, social and environmental dimensions, and to support the least developed countries in eradicating poverty and integrating beneficially into the global economy;

(d) To mobilize additional international support measures and action in favour of the least developed countries, and, in this regard, to formulate and adopt a renewed partnership between the least developed countries and their development partners;

5. *Also decides* to convene, towards the end of 2010 and/or early in 2011, an intergovernmental preparatory committee, which would hold no more than two meetings;

6. *Further decides* that the meeting of the preparatory committee will be preceded by two regional-level preparatory meetings, one in collaboration with the Economic Commission for Africa and the other in collaboration with the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, in the context of the regular annual sessions of each Commission, those regional-level meetings to be supported by broad-based and inclusive country-level preparations;

7. *Stresses* that the Conference and the preparatory activities should be carried out within the budget level proposed by the Secretary-General for the

² A/61/117, annex I.

³ See resolution 61/1.

biennium 2010–2011 and should be organized in the most effective and efficient manner possible;

8. *Decides* to take a decision on the organizational aspects, date and venue of the Conference, and on the venue, duration and dates of the preparatory committee meetings, before the end of its sixty-third session;

9. *Recognizes* the importance of the contributions of civil society actors at the Conference and in its preparatory process, and in this regard stresses the need for their active participation in accordance with the rules of procedure of the General Assembly;

10. *Decides* that the Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States will be the focal point for the preparations for the Conference, in accordance with mandates given in General Assembly resolution 56/227 of 24 December 2001, to ensure that those preparations are carried out effectively, and to mobilize and coordinate the active involvement of the organizations of the United Nations system;

11. *Requests* the organizations of the United Nations system, including the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the regional commissions, the specialized agencies, and funds and programmes, and invites the Bretton Woods institutions, the World Trade Organization and other relevant international and regional organizations, within their respective mandates, to provide necessary support and actively contribute to the preparatory process and to the Conference itself;

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure, as appropriate, the full involvement of resident coordinators and country teams in preparations for the Conference, in particular in the country- and regional-level preparations;

13. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to ensure the active involvement of the organizations of the United Nations system in the preparatory process for the Conference in a coordinated and coherent manner, inter alia, by making use of the existing coordination mechanisms of the United Nations system;

14. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-fourth session a report on the further implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001–2010 as well as on the implementation of the present resolution, including a report on the state of the substantive, organizational and logistic preparations for the Conference.

72nd plenary meeting
19 December 2008



General Assembly

Distr.: General
17 March 2009

Sixty-third session
Agenda item 52 (b)

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

[on the report of the Second Committee (A/63/417/Add.2)]

63/228. Groups of countries in special situations: specific actions related to the particular needs and problems of landlocked developing countries: outcome of the International Ministerial Conference of Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries and Donor Countries and International Financial and Development Institutions on Transit Transport Cooperation

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 58/201 of 23 December 2003, 60/208 of 22 December 2005, 61/212 of 20 December 2006 and 62/204 of 19 December 2007,

Recalling also the United Nations Millennium Declaration,¹ and the 2005 World Summit Outcome,²

Recognizing that the lack of territorial access to the sea, aggravated by remoteness from world markets, and prohibitive transit costs and risks continue to impose serious constraints on export earnings, private capital inflow and domestic resource mobilization of landlocked developing countries and therefore adversely affect their overall growth and socio-economic development,

Expressing support to those landlocked developing countries that are emerging from conflict, with a view to enabling them to rehabilitate and reconstruct, as appropriate, political, social and economic infrastructure and to assisting them in achieving their development priorities in accordance with the goals and targets of the Almaty Programme of Action: Addressing the Special Needs of Landlocked Developing Countries within a New Global Framework for Transit Transport Cooperation for Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries,³

¹ See resolution 55/2.

² See resolution 60/1.

³ *Report of the International Ministerial Conference of Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries and Donor Countries and International Financial and Development Institutions on Transit Transport Cooperation, Almaty, Kazakhstan, 28 and 29 August 2003 (A/CONF.202/3), annex I.*

Recalling the New Partnership for Africa's Development,⁴ an initiative for accelerating regional economic cooperation and development, as many landlocked and transit developing countries are located in Africa,

Reaffirming that the Almaty Programme of Action constitutes a fundamental framework for genuine partnerships between landlocked and transit developing countries and their development partners at the national, bilateral, subregional, regional and global levels,

Recalling its resolution 63/2 of 3 October 2008, by which it adopted the Declaration of the high-level meeting of the sixty-third session of the General Assembly on the midterm review of the Almaty Programme of Action,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the Almaty Programme of Action;⁵

2. *Reaffirms* the right of access of landlocked countries to and from the sea and freedom of transit through the territory of transit countries by all means of transport, in accordance with the applicable rules of international law;

3. *Also reaffirms* that transit countries, in the exercise of their full sovereignty over their territory, have the right to take all measures necessary to ensure that the rights and facilities provided for landlocked countries in no way infringe upon their legitimate interests;

4. *Further reaffirms* its full commitment to the Declaration adopted by the Ministers and heads of delegations participating in the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly on the midterm review of the Almaty Programme of Action,⁶ in which they recommitted themselves to urgently addressing the special development needs of and challenges faced by the landlocked developing countries through the full, timely and effective implementation of the Almaty Programme of Action;³

5. *Acknowledges* that landlocked and transit developing countries in Africa, Asia, Europe and Latin America have strengthened their policy and governance reform efforts and that donor countries, financial and development institutions and international and regional organizations have paid greater attention to the establishment of efficient transit systems; notes with concern, however, that the landlocked developing countries continue to be marginalized from international trade, thus preventing them from fully using trade as an instrument for achieving their development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, and face challenges in their efforts to establish efficient transit transport systems; and therefore notes the importance of the ongoing World Trade Organization negotiations on trade facilitation, particularly on the relevant articles of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade that are important to landlocked developing countries, such as those referred to in the Declaration on the midterm review of the Almaty Programme of Action;

6. *Calls upon* landlocked and transit developing countries to take all appropriate measures, as set out in the Declaration, to speed up the implementation of the Almaty Programme of Action;

⁴ A/57/304, annex.

⁵ A/63/165.

⁶ See resolution 63/2.

7. *Calls upon* donors and multilateral, regional, financial and development institutions to provide landlocked and transit developing countries with appropriate, substantial and better-coordinated technical and financial assistance, particularly in the form of grants or concessionary loans, for the implementation of the Almaty Programme of Action, in particular for the construction, maintenance and improvement of their transport, storage and other transit-related facilities, including alternative routes, completion of missing links and improved communications, so as to promote subregional, regional and interregional projects and programmes;

8. *Calls upon* the development partners to effectively operationalize the Aid for Trade initiative so as to support trade facilitation measures and trade-related technical assistance, as well as the diversification of export products through the development of small and medium-sized enterprises and private sector involvement in landlocked developing countries;

9. *Encourages* the international community to enhance efforts to facilitate access to and encourage the transfer of technologies related to transit transport systems, including information and communications technology;

10. *Encourages* the further strengthening of South-South cooperation and triangular cooperation with the involvement of donors, as well as cooperation among subregional and regional organizations, in support of the efforts of landlocked and transit developing countries towards achieving the full and effective implementation of the Almaty Programme of Action;

11. *Calls upon* the relevant organizations of the United Nations system, the regional commissions, the United Nations Development Programme and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, and invites other international organizations, including the World Bank, the regional development banks, the World Customs Organization, the World Trade Organization, regional economic integration organizations, and other relevant regional and subregional organizations, to further integrate the Almaty Programme of Action into their relevant programmes of work, taking full account of the Declaration on the midterm review, and encourages them to continue, as appropriate, within their respective mandates, their support to the landlocked and transit developing countries, inter alia, through well-coordinated and coherent technical assistance programmes in transit transport and trade facilitation;

12. *Encourages* the Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States to continue to ensure coordinated follow-up to and effective monitoring and reporting on the implementation of the Almaty Programme of Action, in line with General Assembly resolution 57/270 B of 23 June 2003, and to step up its advocacy efforts directed towards raising international awareness and mobilizing resources, as well as to further develop cooperation and coordination with organizations within the United Nations system in order to ensure the timely and effective implementation of the Almaty Programme of Action and the Declaration on the midterm review;

13. *Encourages* the Economic Commission for Africa, the Economic Commission for Europe, the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean and the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific to continue their efforts to work with landlocked and transit developing countries to develop integrated regional transit transport systems, harmonize regulatory requirements and procedures for import/export and transit with international conventions and standards, promote intermodal transport corridors, encourage access to and more effective implementation of international conventions on transit

transport, and assist in the establishment of national trade and transport facilitation coordination mechanisms and in improving the planning and development of the missing links in regional infrastructure networks, especially in Africa;

14. *Encourages* the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to continue to strengthen its technical assistance activities and analytical work related to logistics and transit transport cooperation;

15. *Encourages* the United Nations Development Programme to enhance its provision of trade-related technical assistance and capacity-building programmes to landlocked developing countries;

16. *Invites* the World Trade Organization to continue to provide technical assistance to landlocked developing countries in order to enhance their negotiating capabilities;

17. *Invites* the World Bank to continue to give priority to requests for technical assistance to supplement national and regional efforts to promote the efficient use of existing transit facilities, including the application of information technologies and the simplification of procedures and documents;

18. *Invites* the World Customs Organization and other relevant international and regional organizations to continue to strengthen the provision of technical assistance and capacity-building programmes to landlocked and transit developing countries in the area of customs reform, simplification and harmonization of procedures, and enforcement and compliance;

19. *Encourages* donors and the international financial and development institutions, as well as private entities, to make voluntary contributions to the trust fund established by the Secretary-General to support the activities related to the follow-up to the implementation of the outcome of the Almaty International Ministerial Conference;³

20. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-fourth session an analytical report on the implementation of the Almaty Programme of Action and the Declaration on the midterm review;

21. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-fourth session the item entitled "Specific actions related to the particular needs and problems of landlocked developing countries: outcome of the International Ministerial Conference of Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries and Donor Countries and International Financial and Development Institutions on Transit Transport Cooperation".

72nd plenary meeting
19 December 2008



General Assembly

Distr.: General
10 March 2009

Sixty-third session
Agenda item 53 (a)

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

[on the report of the Second Committee (A/63/418/Add.1)]

63/229. Role of microcredit and microfinance in the eradication of poverty

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 52/193 and 52/194 of 18 December 1997, 53/197 of 15 December 1998, 58/221 of 23 December 2003, 59/246 of 22 December 2004 and 61/214 of 20 December 2006,

Recognizing the need for access to financial services, in particular for the poor, including access to microfinance and microcredit,

Recognizing also that microfinance, in particular microcredit programmes, has succeeded in generating productive self-employment and proved to be an effective tool in overcoming poverty and reducing the vulnerability of poor people to crisis and has led to their growing participation, in particular the participation of women, in the mainstream socio-economic and political processes of society, and bearing in mind that microfinance, in particular microcredit, has especially benefited women and has resulted in the achievement of their empowerment,

Recognizing further that the majority of the world's poor still do not have access to financial services and that microcredit and microfinance are the subject of significant demand worldwide,

Bearing in mind the importance of providing access to microfinance instruments and services, such as credit, savings, insurance, money transfers and other financial products and services, for poor people,

Recognizing that inclusive financial sectors can offer appropriate financial services and products to poor people,

Noting with appreciation the efforts of the United Nations Advisers Group on Inclusive Financial Sectors to promote the building of inclusive financial sectors to meet the needs and demands of poor people, and noting also the recommendations containing key messages to build inclusive financial sectors put forward in June 2008,

Noting events organized for the promotion of inclusive financial sectors, including the convening of the Global Microcredit Summit in Halifax, Canada, from 12 to 15 November 2006,

Welcoming the efforts made in the field of property rights, and noting that an enabling environment at all levels, including transparent regulatory systems and competitive markets, fosters the mobilization of resources and access to finance for people living in poverty,

Noting with appreciation the contribution of awards and prizes to increasing the visibility and awareness of the role of microfinance, including microcredit, in the eradication of poverty, most notably the awarding of the 2006 Nobel Peace Prize,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;¹
2. *Welcomes* the successful observance of the International Year of Microcredit, 2005, which constituted a special occasion to raise awareness and share best practices and lessons learned on microcredit and microfinance;
3. *Recognizes* that access to microfinance and microcredit can contribute to the achievement of the goals and targets of major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic and social fields, including those contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration,² in particular the goals relating to poverty eradication, gender equality and the empowerment of women;
4. *Underlines* the need for greater access to microfinance, including microcredit, in developing countries, in particular for small farmers, which can contribute to increased agricultural productivity and rural development;
5. *Also underlines* the importance of strengthening domestic financial sectors as a source of capital by making them inclusive, thus expanding access to financial services;
6. *Recognizes* that microfinance has experienced tremendous growth in the number of people served and the diversity of financial services offered, and that, along with the growth in numbers served as well as products and services offered, there has also been a large increase in the number of public and private microfinance providers, all of which share the common characteristic of providing financial services to poor and socio-economically vulnerable people, as well as micro-entrepreneurs who would not normally be served, or are underserved, by traditional financial institutions;
7. *Notes* that, despite progress, there is still lack of relevant statistical data on inclusive financial sectors, in particular microcredit and microfinance programmes, in particular at the national and regional levels, and in this regard invites the international community, in particular the donor community, to support developing countries in collecting and preserving necessary statistical data and information on this issue, specifically on defining and measuring access to financial services and products at the country level and measuring the type, quality and usage of such services and products over time;
8. *Calls upon* Member States, the United Nations system and other relevant stakeholders to fully maximize the role of microfinance instruments, including microcredit for poverty eradication and especially for the empowerment of women and rural populations, and to ensure that best practices in the microfinance sector are widely disseminated;

¹ A/63/159.

² See resolution 55/2.

9. *Invites* Member States, the United Nations system, the Bretton Woods institutions, regional development banks and other relevant stakeholders to support, financially and technically, in a coordinated manner, the efforts of developing countries in capacity-building for microcredit and microfinance institutions to expand their products and services, including by improving their policy and regulatory framework;

10. *Invites* Member States to consider adopting policies to facilitate the expansion of microcredit and microfinance institutions in order to service the large unmet demand among poor people for financial services, including the identification and development of mechanisms to promote access to sustainable financial services, the removal of institutional and regulatory obstacles, the promotion of financial literacy and the provision of incentives to microfinance institutions that meet national standards for delivering sound financial services to the poor;

11. *Encourages* Member States to adopt coherent financial regulatory frameworks, including in consultation with microfinance providers, that can effectively protect the stability of their national financial systems and increase access of the poor and microenterprises and small enterprises to financial services, and also to protect consumers, in particular the poor, and in this regard invites the development partners to support the efforts of developing countries in the promotion of entrepreneurship development programmes, including for microenterprises and small and medium-sized enterprises;

12. *Recognizes* that the current financial crisis can adversely impact financial flows to microcredit and microfinance institutions as well as the services that they provide to the poor, and emphasizes that such instruments should be protected, as appropriate, from potential credit deficiency;

13. *Decides* to devote one plenary meeting at its sixty-fifth session to the consideration of the outcome of and follow-up to the International Year of Microcredit, with a view to broadening and deepening the discussion about microcredit and microfinance and inclusive financial sectors;

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution, under the item entitled "Eradication of poverty and other development issues".

*72nd plenary meeting
19 December 2008*



General Assembly

Distr.: General
17 March 2009

Sixty-third session
Agenda item 53 (a)

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

[on the report of the Second Committee (A/63/418/Add.1)]

63/230. Second United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (2008–2017)

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 47/196 of 22 December 1992, 48/183 of 21 December 1993, 50/107 of 20 December 1995, 56/207 of 21 December 2001, 57/265 and 57/266 of 20 December 2002, 58/222 of 23 December 2003, 59/247 of 22 December 2004, 60/209 of 22 December 2005, 61/213 of 20 December 2006 and 62/205 of 19 December 2007,

Recalling also the United Nations Millennium Declaration, adopted by Heads of State and Government on the occasion of the Millennium Summit,¹ as well as the international commitment to eradicate extreme poverty and to halve, by 2015, the proportion of the world's people whose income is less than one dollar a day and the proportion of people who suffer from hunger,

Recalling further the 2005 World Summit Outcome,²

Recalling its resolution 60/265 of 30 June 2006 on the follow-up to the development outcome of the 2005 World Summit, including the Millennium Development Goals and the other internationally agreed development goals,

Recalling also its resolution 61/16 of 20 November 2006 on the strengthening of the Economic and Social Council,

Welcoming the poverty-related discussions in the annual ministerial reviews held by the Economic and Social Council, which play an important supporting role in the implementation of the Second United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (2008–2017),

Recalling the outcomes of the World Summit for Social Development³ and the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly,⁴

¹ See resolution 55/2.

² See resolution 60/1.

³ *Report of the World Summit for Social Development, Copenhagen, 6–12 March 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.8), chap. I, resolution I, annexes I and II.

⁴ Resolution S-24/2, annex.

Expressing concern that, after the First United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (1997–2006) and midway to the 2015 Millennium Development Goals target date, while there has been progress in reducing poverty in some regions, this progress has been uneven and the number of people living in poverty in some countries continues to increase, with women and children constituting the majority of the most affected groups, especially in the least developed countries and particularly in sub-Saharan Africa,

Recognizing that rates of economic growth vary between countries and that these differences must be addressed by, among other actions, promoting pro-poor growth and social protection,

Concerned by the global nature of poverty and inequality, and underlining that the eradication of poverty and hunger is an ethical, social, political and economic imperative of humankind,

Reaffirming that eradicating poverty is one of the greatest global challenges facing the world today, particularly in Africa and in least developed countries, and underlining the importance of accelerating sustainable broad-based and inclusive economic growth, including full, productive employment-generation and decent work,

Expressing concern that the number of people living in poverty is higher than previously estimated,⁵ despite significant progress, and that the current financial and food insecurity crises and unpredictable energy prices may pose significant challenges for the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals,

Recognizing that mobilizing financial resources for development at the national and international levels and the effective use of those resources are central to a global partnership for development in support of the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals,

Recognizing also the contributions of South-South and triangular cooperation to the efforts of developing countries to eradicate poverty and to pursue sustainable development,

Acknowledging that good governance at national and international levels and sustained and inclusive economic growth, supported by full employment and decent work, rising productivity, and a favourable environment, including public and private investment and entrepreneurship, are necessary to eradicate poverty, achieve the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, and realize a rise in living standards, and that corporate social responsibility initiatives play an important role in maximizing the impact of public and private investment,

Underlining the priority and urgency given by the Heads of State and Government to the eradication of poverty, as expressed in the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic and social fields,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the Second United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (2008–2017);⁶

⁵ World Bank estimates, as at August 2008, calculated using a revised poverty line.

⁶ A/63/190.

2. *Reaffirms* that the objective of the Second United Nations Decade is to support, in an efficient and coordinated manner, the follow-up to the implementation of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, related to the eradication of poverty and to coordinate international support to that end;

3. *Also reaffirms* that each country must take primary responsibility for its own development and that the role of national policies and strategies cannot be overemphasized in the achievement of sustainable development and poverty eradication, and recognizes that increased effective national efforts should be complemented by concrete, effective and supportive international programmes, measures and policies aimed at expanding the development opportunities of developing countries, while taking into account national conditions and ensuring respect for national ownership, strategies and sovereignty;

4. *Emphasizes* the need to accord the highest priority to poverty eradication within the United Nations development agenda, while stressing the importance of addressing the causes and challenges of poverty through integrated, coordinated and coherent strategies at the national, intergovernmental and inter-agency levels;

5. *Reiterates* the need to strengthen the leadership role of the United Nations in promoting international cooperation for development, critical for the eradication of poverty;

6. *Stresses* the importance of ensuring, at the national, intergovernmental and inter-agency levels, coherent, comprehensive and integrated activities for the eradication of poverty in accordance with the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social and related fields;

7. *Emphasizes* that education and training are among the critical factors in empowering those living in poverty, while recognizing the complexity of the challenge of poverty eradication;

8. *Calls upon* the international community to continue to give priority to the eradication of poverty and on donor countries in a position to do so to support the effective national efforts of developing countries in this regard, through adequate predictable financial resources on either a bilateral or a multilateral basis;

9. *Acknowledges* efforts of developed countries to increase their assistance for development, including commitments by some developed countries to increase official development assistance; notes with concern, however, the overall decline in official development assistance in 2006 and 2007, and calls for the fulfilment of all official development assistance-related commitments, including the commitments made by many developed countries to achieve the target of 0.7 per cent of gross national product for official development assistance by 2015 and to reach the target of at least 0.5 per cent of gross national product for official development assistance by 2010, as well as to achieve the target of 0.15 to 0.20 per cent of gross national product for official development assistance to least developed countries; and urges those developed countries that have not yet done so to make concrete efforts in this regard in accordance with their commitments;

10. *Welcomes* recent efforts and initiatives to enhance the quality of aid and to increase its impact, including the Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness and the Accra Agenda for Action,⁷ and the resolve to take concrete, effective and timely

⁷ A/63/539, annex.

action in implementing all agreed commitments on aid effectiveness, with clear monitoring and deadlines, including through further aligning assistance with countries' strategies, building institutional capacities, reducing transaction costs and eliminating bureaucratic procedures, making progress on untying aid, enhancing the absorptive capacity and financial management of recipient countries and strengthening the focus on development results;

11. *Recognizes* that sustained and inclusive economic growth is essential for eradicating poverty and hunger, in particular in developing countries, and stresses that national efforts in this regard should be complemented by an enabling international environment;

12. *Also recognizes* that, for developing countries to reach the targets set in the context of national development strategies for the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, in particular the goal on the eradication of extreme poverty, and for such poverty eradication strategies to be effective, it is imperative that developing countries increase their efforts to be integrated into the world economy in order to share the benefits of globalization;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General to appoint a focal point from within the United Nations system to coordinate the implementation of the Second United Nations Decade in close consultation with Member States;

14. *Considers* that a theme for the Second United Nations Decade, to be reviewed at the sixty-fifth session of the General Assembly, shall be "Full employment and decent work for all", and requests the Secretary-General to submit to the Assembly at that session a report that details the current response of the United Nations system to the theme;

15. *Recognizes* the need to give the highest priority to its consideration of the item on poverty eradication in its agenda, and in that regard, as a contribution to the Second United Nations Decade, decides to convene, during its sixty-eighth session, a meeting of the General Assembly at the highest appropriate political level centred on the review process devoted to the theme for the issue of poverty eradication, and stresses that the meeting and the preparatory activities should be carried out within the budget level proposed by the Secretary-General for the biennium 2012-2013 and should be organized in the most effective and efficient manner;

16. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-fourth session an item entitled "Implementation of the Second United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (2008-2017)", and requests the Secretary-General to brief Member States orally on progress in the implementation of efforts related to the theme for the Second Decade.

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General Assembly

Distr.: General
17 March 2009

Sixty-third session
Agenda item 53 (b)

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

[on the report of the Second Committee (A/63/418/Add.2)]

63/231. Industrial development cooperation

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 46/151 of 18 December 1991, 49/108 of 19 December 1994, 51/170 of 16 December 1996, 53/177 of 15 December 1998, 55/187 of 20 December 2000, 57/243 of 20 December 2002, 59/249 of 22 December 2004 and 61/215 of 20 December 2006 on industrial development cooperation,

Recalling also the United Nations Millennium Declaration,¹ the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development² and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development ("Johannesburg Plan of Implementation").³

Recalling further the 2005 World Summit Outcome⁴ and resolution 60/265 of 30 June 2006 on the follow-up to the development outcome of the 2005 World Summit, including the Millennium Development Goals and the other internationally agreed development goals,

Recognizing that industrialization is an essential driver of sustained economic growth, sustainable development and poverty eradication in developing countries and countries with economies in transition, including through the creation of productive employment, income generation and the facilitation of social integration, including the integration of women into the development process,

Stressing the importance of international cooperation to promote equitable and sustainable patterns of industrial development,

Recognizing the role of the business community, including the private sector, in enhancing the dynamic process of the development of the industrial sector, underlining the importance of the benefits of foreign direct investment in that

¹ See resolution 55/2.

² *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18–22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution I, annex.

³ *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 2, annex.

⁴ See resolution 60/1.

process, and recognizing also, in this regard, that an enabling domestic environment is vital for mobilizing domestic resources, increasing productivity, reducing capital flight, encouraging the private sector and attracting and making effective use of international investment and assistance and that efforts to create such an environment should be supported by the international community,

Recognizing also the importance of the transfer of technology on mutually agreed terms to the developing countries as well as countries with economies in transition as an effective means of international cooperation in the pursuit of poverty eradication and sustainable development,

Noting that the United Nations Industrial Development Organization was awarded the Africa Investor Award for 2007 in the category "best initiative in support of small and medium-sized enterprise development",

Taking note of the important role played by the United Nations Industrial Development Organization in the development of the public and private sectors, productivity growth, trade capacity-building, corporate social responsibility, environmental protection, energy efficiency and the promotion of renewable energies,

1. *Takes note* of the note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Director-General of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization;⁵

2. *Reaffirms* that each country must take primary responsibility for its own industrial development and that national efforts should be complemented by supportive global programmes, measures and policies aimed at expanding the development opportunities of developing countries;

3. *Also reaffirms* the essential contribution of industrial development to sustained economic growth and social development and the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals;

4. *Emphasizes* the importance of the creation of wealth for poverty reduction and for pro-poor growth, especially with regard to women, through the development and strengthening of productive capacities in developing countries and countries with economies in transition, including through the development of the public and private sectors and entrepreneurship and through small and medium-sized enterprises, enterprise upgrading, training, education and skills enhancement and an enabling environment for the transfer of technology on mutually agreed terms, the flow of investments and participation in global supply chains;

5. *Underlines* the necessity of favourable national and international measures for industrialization in developing countries and countries with economies in transition, and urges all Governments to develop and implement policies that will lead to the development of a dynamic industrial sector through, inter alia, public- and private-sector development, the diffusion of environmentally sound and emerging technologies, investment promotion and enhanced access to markets;

6. *Calls for* the continuing use of official development assistance for sustainable industrial development, the achievement of greater efficiency and effectiveness of official development assistance resources and industrial

⁵ A/63/309.

development cooperation between developing countries and with countries with economies in transition;

7. *Underlines* the importance of mobilizing resources for sustainable industrial development at the country level;

8. *Calls for* the continuing use of all other resources, including private and public, foreign and domestic resources, for industrial development in the developing countries as well as countries with economies in transition;

9. *Recognizes* the key role of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization in promoting sustainable industrial development and in industrial development cooperation, and welcomes its increased programmatic focus on three thematic priorities, namely, poverty reduction through productive activities, trade capacity-building and environment and energy;

10. *Calls upon* the United Nations Industrial Development Organization to take appropriate actions for the full implementation of General Assembly resolution 62/208 of 19 December 2007;

11. *Recognizes* that the current food crisis represents a serious and complex challenge affecting the world's poor, and looks forward to discussions and a report on how the United Nations Industrial Development Organization might best contribute to a system-wide solution to the crisis;

12. *Stresses* the importance of the development of agro-industries and the reduction of post-harvest losses, including through the introduction of improved technologies and the increased processing of agricultural products in developing countries and countries with economies in transition, and encourages the parties in the ongoing discussions being held in Vienna to consider how the United Nations Industrial Development Organization could best contribute to those objectives, including discussions aimed at helping to achieve global food security;

13. *Notes* the emphasis placed by the United Nations Industrial Development Organization on assisting developing countries and countries with economies in transition to strengthen their capacity to engage in international trade through small and medium-sized enterprise development and by helping them to meet international product and process standards;

14. *Welcomes* the increased cooperation of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization with the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the International Trade Centre UNCTAD/WTO, the World Trade Organization, the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Environment Programme, the World Health Organization, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the regional commissions, and invites the United Nations Industrial Development Organization to continue to build and strengthen its partnership with other United Nations organizations having complementary mandates and activities with a view to achieving greater effectiveness and development impact and promoting increased coherence within the United Nations system;

15. *Encourages* the United Nations Industrial Development Organization to continue to promote environmentally sound and sustainable production through, inter alia, its programmes on cleaner production, industrial water management and industrial energy efficiency and the utilization of renewable energy for productive uses, especially in rural areas;

16. *Takes note* of the increased emphasis given by the United Nations Industrial Development Organization to South-South cooperation, including triangular cooperation, and encourages it to pay particular attention to promoting industrial cooperation among developing countries, including through its centres for South-South industrial cooperation and through the promotion of various forms of public/private-sector partnerships and the exchange of experiences in public- and private-sector development, including at the regional, subregional and country levels, with regard to industrial development;

17. *Welcomes* the support of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization for the New Partnership for Africa's Development⁶ and other programmes of the African Union, including the Pharmaceutical Manufacturing Plan for Africa, aimed at further strengthening the industrialization process in Africa, inter alia, through its role as the convener of the industry, trade and market access cluster of the regional consultation meetings led by the Economic Commission for Africa;

18. *Recognizes* the importance of industrial development in post-conflict countries, particularly through employment-generating activities and energy supply, and encourages the United Nations Industrial Development Organization to assist in these efforts within its mandate, including, where applicable, by providing assistance in the implementation of the integrated peacebuilding strategies of the Peacebuilding Commission;

19. *Encourages* the United Nations Industrial Development Organization to develop further its global forum capacity according to its mandate, with the aim of enhancing, in the context of the globalization process, a common understanding of global and regional industrial sector issues and their impact on poverty eradication and sustainable development;

20. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution.

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⁶ A/57/304, annex.



General Assembly

Distr.: General
17 March 2009

Sixty-third session
Agenda item 54

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

[on the report of the Second Committee (A/63/419)]

63/232. Operational activities for development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 62/208 of 19 December 2007 on the triennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system,

Reaffirming the importance of the triennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development, through which the General Assembly establishes key system-wide policy orientations for the development cooperation and country-level modalities of the United Nations system,

1. *Takes note* of the reports of the Secretary-General¹ and of the note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report on the activities of the United Nations Development Fund for Women;²

2. *Also takes note* of Economic and Social Council resolution 2008/2 of 18 July 2008 on the progress in the implementation of General Assembly resolution 62/208 on the triennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system;

Funding of operational activities of the United Nations development system

3. *Reiterates* paragraphs 18 to 20 of Economic and Social Council resolution 2008/2, on the comprehensive statistical analysis of the financing of operational activities for development of the United Nations system;³

4. *Requests* the United Nations Development Programme and the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat, making use of

¹ Reports of the Secretary-General on the comprehensive statistical analysis of the financing of operational activities for development of the United Nations system for 2006 (A/63/71-E/2008/46); on the trends in contributions to operational activities for development of the United Nations system and measures to promote an adequate, predictable and expanding base of United Nations development assistance (A/63/201); and on the implications of aligning the strategic planning cycles of the United Nations funds and programmes with the comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development (A/63/207).

² A/63/205.

³ See also A/63/71-E/2008/46.

existing capacities within the Secretariat and, if necessary, voluntary contributions, to take the necessary steps to integrate by 2010 information from the report on United Nations system technical cooperation expenditures and its statistical addendum into the report on the comprehensive statistical analysis of the financing of operational activities for development of the United Nations system, to provide appropriate online access to this information and to report to the Economic and Social Council in 2009 on progress in this regard, and encourages the Executive Board of the United Nations Development Programme/United Nations Population Fund to take the necessary decision to make this possible;

5. *Expresses concern at:*

(a) The fact that the upward trend in contributions in real terms received by the United Nations system for operational activities since 2002 came to a halt in 2006;⁴

(b) The continuing imbalance between core and non-core funding;

(c) The limited progress towards greater predictability and adequacy of funding;

6. *Emphasizes* that increasing financial contributions to the United Nations development system is key to achieving the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, and in this regard recognizes the mutually reinforcing links between increased effectiveness, efficiency and coherence of the United Nations development system, achieving concrete results in assisting developing countries in eradicating poverty and achieving sustained economic growth and sustainable development through operational activities for development and the overall resourcing of the United Nations development system;

7. *Stresses* that core resources, because of their untied nature, continue to be the bedrock of the operational activities for development of the United Nations system;

8. *Urges* donor countries and other countries in a position to do so to substantially increase their voluntary contributions to the core/regular budgets of the United Nations development system, in particular its funds, programmes and specialized agencies, and to contribute on a multi-year basis, in a sustained and predictable manner;

9. *Invites* countries to consider increasing their contributions to the budgets of the specialized agencies in order to enable the United Nations development system to respond in a more comprehensive and effective manner to the demands of the United Nations development agenda;

10. *Emphasizes* the importance of taking measures to broaden the donor base and increase the number of donor countries and other partners making financial contributions to the United Nations development system in order to reduce reliance of the United Nations development system on a limited number of donors;

11. *Welcomes* the growth in funding provided to the United Nations system from non-governmental sources, such as civil society, private organizations and foundations;

⁴ See A/63/201.

12. *Notes* that non-core resources represent an important supplement to the regular resource base of the United Nations development system to support operational activities for development, thus contributing to an increase in total resources, while recognizing that non-core resources are not a substitute for core resources and that unearmarked contributions are vital for the coherence and harmonization of the operational activities for development;

13. *Underscores* the importance of mobilizing more predictable levels of voluntary contributions to the core operational programmes of the United Nations development system, recognizes the establishment of thematic trust funds, multi-donor trust funds and other voluntary non-earmarked funding mechanisms linked to organization-specific funding frameworks and strategies established by the respective governing bodies as funding modalities complementary to regular budgets, and encourages the measurement of the funding received by the United Nations development system through these modalities as part of the comprehensive statistical analysis of financing of operational activities for development of the United Nations system;

14. *Recognizes* the increasing complexity of the international aid architecture, and in this regard encourages the organizations of the United Nations development system to continue to explore ways to engage with other development partners in order to strengthen their complementarity and the implementation of their mandates, taking into account the importance of national priorities of programme countries, and requests the Secretary-General, in consultation with the United Nations development system, to report on efforts in this regard in the context of his annual report on the implementation of resolution 62/208;

15. *Encourages* the organizations of the United Nations system, if they have not done so, to mobilize and allocate resources, on the basis of a strategic plan, including a multi-year resource programming framework;

16. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to take, in full consultation with Member States and observer States, measures:

(a) To promote an adequate and expanding base of development assistance from the United Nations system, taking into account, inter alia, the development priorities of programme countries;

(b) To promote an upward trend in real contributions to operational activities for development, to identify obstacles to the achievement of that goal, and to make appropriate recommendations in this regard;

(c) To promote the predictability and the multi-year pledging of funding for operational activities for development;

(d) To promote an appropriate balance between core and non-core contributions;

17. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report, in the context of his annual report on the implementation of resolution 62/208, on measures taken in response to paragraph 16 above, bearing in mind the provisions of the present resolution, and including feedback from Member States on ways to achieve the aims contained therein;

Aligning the strategic planning cycles of the United Nations funds and programmes with the comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system

18. *Decides* to change the comprehensive policy review of operational activities from a triennial to a quadrennial cycle in order to better provide policy guidance to the United Nations funds and programmes and the specialized agencies;

19. *Also decides* in this regard to hold its next comprehensive policy review in 2012 and subsequent reviews on a quadrennial basis;

20. *Urges* the funds and programmes and encourages the specialized agencies to carry out any changes required to align their planning cycles with the quadrennial comprehensive policy review, including the implementation of midterm reviews as necessary, and to report to the Economic and Social Council on adjustments made to fit the new comprehensive review cycle at the substantive session of the Council.

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19 December 2008*



General Assembly

Distr.: General
17 March 2009

Sixty-third session

Agenda item 54

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

[on the report of the Second Committee (A/63/419)]

63/233. High-level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolution 33/134 of 19 December 1978, in which it endorsed the Buenos Aires Plan of Action for Promoting and Implementing Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries,¹

Recalling the 2005 World Summit Outcome,²

Recalling also its resolution 62/209 of 19 December 2007, in which it decided to convene a High-level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation,

Taking note with appreciation of the report of the President of the High-level Committee on South-South Cooperation submitted pursuant to its resolution 62/209,³

Taking note of the draft fourth cooperation framework for South-South cooperation (2009–2011)⁴ and the recommendations contained therein,

Reaffirming its previous relevant resolutions pertaining to South-South cooperation,

Requests that the President of the General Assembly entrust the President of the High-level Committee on South-South Cooperation with undertaking, while making use of the existing coordination mechanisms of the United Nations system, the necessary consultations with Member States in order to prepare for the proposed High-level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation, with a view to the Assembly taking a decision, during its sixty-third session, on the nature, date, budgetary implications, objectives and modalities of the Conference.

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¹ Report of the United Nations Conference on Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries, Buenos Aires, 30 August–12 September 1978 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.78.II.A.11 and corrigendum), chap. I.

² See resolution 60/1.

³ A/C.2/63/7, attachment III.

⁴ DP/CF/SSC/4/Rev.1.



General Assembly

Distr.: General
13 March 2009

Sixty-third session
Agenda item 43

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

[without reference to a Main Committee (A/63/L.62 and Add.1)]

63/234. 2001–2010: Decade to Roll Back Malaria in Developing Countries, Particularly in Africa

The General Assembly,

Recalling that the period 2001–2010 has been proclaimed the Decade to Roll Back Malaria in Developing Countries, Particularly in Africa, by the General Assembly,¹ and that combating HIV/AIDS, malaria, tuberculosis and other diseases is included in the internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration,²

Recalling also its resolution 62/180 of 19 December 2007 and all previous resolutions concerning the struggle against malaria in developing countries, particularly in Africa,

Recalling further resolution 60.18, adopted by the World Health Assembly on 23 May 2007,³ urging a broad range of national and international actions to scale up malaria control programmes,

Bearing in mind the relevant resolutions of the Economic and Social Council relating to the struggle against malaria and diarrhoeal diseases, in particular resolution 1998/36 of 30 July 1998,

Taking note of the declarations and decisions on health issues adopted by the Organization of African Unity, in particular the declaration and plan of action on the “Roll Back Malaria” initiative adopted at the Extraordinary Summit of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity, held in Abuja on 24 and 25 April 2000,⁴ as well as decision AHG/Dec.155 (XXXVI) concerning the implementation of that declaration and plan of action, adopted by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity at its thirty-sixth ordinary session, held in Lomé from 10 to 12 July 2000,⁵

¹ See resolution 55/284.

² See resolution 55/2.

³ See World Health Organization, *Sixtieth World Health Assembly, Geneva, 14–23 May 2007, Resolutions and Decisions, Annex* (WHA60/2007/REC/1).

⁴ See A/55/240/Add.1.

⁵ See A/55/286, annex II.

Also taking note of the Maputo Declaration on Malaria, HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis and Other Related Infectious Diseases, adopted by the Assembly of the African Union at its second ordinary session, held in Maputo from 10 to 12 July 2003,⁶ and the Abuja call for accelerated action towards universal access to HIV and AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria services in Africa, issued by the Heads of State and Government of the African Union at the special summit of the African Union on HIV and AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria, held in Abuja, from 2 to 4 May 2006,

Recognizing the linkages in efforts being made to reach the targets set at the Abuja Summit in 2000 as necessary and important for the attainment of the "Roll Back Malaria" goal and the targets of the Millennium Declaration by 2010 and 2015, respectively, and welcomes in this regard the commitment of Member States to respond to the specific needs of Africa,

Also recognizing that malaria-related ill health and deaths throughout the world can be substantially reduced with political commitment and commensurate resources if the public is educated and sensitized about malaria and appropriate health services are made available, particularly in countries where the disease is endemic,

Expressing concern about the continued morbidity, mortality and debility attributed to malaria, and recalling that more efforts are needed if the malaria targets for 2010 and the malaria and Millennium Development Goal targets for 2015 are to be reached on time,

Commending the efforts of the World Health Organization, the United Nations Children's Fund, the Roll Back Malaria Partnership, the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, the World Bank and other partners to fight malaria over the years,

Taking note of the Roll Back Malaria Global Strategic Plan 2005–2015 and the Global Malaria Action Plan developed by the Roll Back Malaria Partnership,

1. *Welcomes* the report prepared by the World Health Organization,⁷ and calls for support for the recommendations contained therein;

2. *Also welcomes* the Global Malaria Action Plan, which provides for the first time a comprehensive plan for combating malaria in the short, medium and long term, including by giving further impetus to internationally agreed targets of universal coverage of malaria interventions for all at-risk populations by 2010, of continuing the scale-up to achieve nearly zero preventable deaths from malaria by 2015 and of eliminating and, with additional research and development, ultimately eradicating the disease;

3. *Further welcomes* the theme "Malaria - a disease without borders" that was chosen for the first World Malaria Day, as well as activities undertaken by the Member States, relevant organizations of the United Nations system, international institutions, non-governmental organizations, the private sector and civil society to commemorate this day, and encourages them to continue to observe World Malaria Day and to collaborate in the observance of the final two years of the Decade to Roll Back Malaria in Developing Countries, Particularly in Africa, in order to raise

⁶ A/58/626, annex I, Assembly/AU/Decl.6 (II).

⁷ See A/63/219.

public awareness of and knowledge about the prevention, control and treatment of malaria as well as the importance of meeting the Millennium Development Goals;

4. *Welcomes* the designation by the Secretary-General of a Special Envoy for Malaria to raise the issue in collaboration with other United Nations organizations already working on those issues on the international political and development agendas and to work with national and global leaders to help to secure the political will, the partnerships and the funds to drastically reduce malaria deaths by 2010 through increased access to protection and treatment, especially in Africa;

5. *Also welcomes* the adoption by the sixty-first World Health Assembly of resolution 61.21 of 24 May 2008,⁸ in which it adopted the global strategy and the agreed parts of the plan of action on public health, innovation and intellectual property;

6. *Further welcomes* the increased funding for malaria interventions and for research and development of preventive and control tools from the international community, through funding from multilateral and bilateral sources and from the private sector, as well as by making predictable financing available through appropriate and effective aid modalities and in-country health financing mechanisms aligned with national priorities, which are key to strengthening health systems and promoting universal and equitable access to high-quality malaria prevention and treatment services;

7. *Welcomes* recent commitments and initiatives to promote overall malaria prevention, control and treatment, including those announced at the high-level event on the Millennium Development Goals, held in New York on 25 September 2008;

8. *Also welcomes* World Health Assembly resolution 61.18 of 24 May 2008,⁸ in which the Assembly initiated annual monitoring of the achievement of the health-related Millennium Development Goals;

9. *Urges* the international community to deliver on programmes and activities at the country level in order to achieve internationally agreed targets on malaria;

10. *Calls upon* the international community to continue to support the secretariat of the Roll Back Malaria Partnership and partner organizations, including the World Health Organization, the World Bank and the United Nations Children's Fund, as vital complementary sources of support for the efforts of malaria-endemic countries to combat the disease;

11. *Appeals* to the international community to work in a spirit of cooperation towards effective, increased, harmonized and sustained bilateral and multilateral assistance to combat malaria, including support for the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, in order to assist States, in particular malaria-endemic countries, to implement sound national plans, in particular health plans and sanitation plans, including malaria control strategies and integrated management of childhood illnesses, in a sustained and equitable way that, inter alia, contributes to health system development;

12. *Appeals* to the malaria partners to resolve the financial and delivery bottlenecks that are responsible for stock-outs of long-lasting insecticide-treated

⁸ See World Health Organization, *Sixty-first World Health Assembly, Geneva, 19–24 May 2008, Resolutions and Decisions, Annexes* (WHA61/2008/REC/1).

nets, artemisinin-based combination therapies and rapid diagnostic tests at the national level, whenever they occur, including through the strengthening of malaria programme management at the country level;

13. *Welcomes* the contribution to the mobilization of additional and predictable resources for development by voluntary innovative financing initiatives taken by groups of Member States, and in this regard notes the International Drug Purchase Facility, UNITAID, the International Finance Facility for Immunization, the Affordable Medicines Facility for Malaria, the Global Alliance for Vaccines and Immunization and the advance market commitment initiatives;

14. *Urges* malaria-endemic countries to work towards financial sustainability, to increase, to the extent possible, domestic resource allocation to malaria control and to create favourable conditions for working with the private sector in order to improve access to good-quality malaria services;

15. *Urges* Member States to assess and respond to the needs for integrated human resources at all levels of the health system, in order to achieve the targets of the Abuja Declaration on Roll Back Malaria in Africa⁹ and the internationally agreed development goals of the United Nations Millennium Declaration,² to take actions, as appropriate, to effectively govern the recruitment, training and retention of skilled health personnel, and to give particular focus to the availability of skilled personnel at all levels to meet technical and operational needs as increased funding for malaria control programmes becomes available;

16. *Calls upon* the international community, inter alia, by helping to meet the financial needs of the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria and through country-led initiatives with adequate international support, to intensify access to affordable, safe and effective antimalarial combination treatments, intermittent preventive treatment in pregnancies, long-lasting insecticide-treated mosquito nets, including, where appropriate, through the free distribution of such nets and, where appropriate, to insecticides for indoor residual spraying for malaria control, taking into account relevant international rules, including the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants¹⁰ standards and guidelines;

17. *Requests* relevant international organizations, in particular the World Health Organization and the United Nations Children's Fund, to assist efforts of national Governments to provide universal access to malaria control interventions to at-risk young children and pregnant women in malaria-endemic countries, particularly in Africa, as rapidly as possible, with due regard to ensuring proper use of those interventions, including long-lasting insecticide nets, and sustainability through full community participation and implementation through the health system;

18. *Calls upon* Member States, in particular malaria-endemic countries, to establish and/or strengthen national policies and operational plans, with a view to ensuring the achievement of the targets for 2010 and 2015, in accordance with the technical recommendations of the World Health Organization, so as to ensure the achievement of targets set out in the Global Malaria Action Plan and to promote the achievement of the malaria-related Millennium Development Goals;

19. *Encourages* all African countries that have not yet done so to implement the recommendations of the Abuja Summit in 2000⁴ to reduce or waive taxes and

⁹ A/55/240/Add.1, annex.

¹⁰ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2256, No. 40214.

tariffs for nets and other products needed for malaria control, both to reduce the price of the products to consumers and to stimulate free trade in those products;

20. *Invites* all malaria-endemic countries, with the support of the international community, to scale up their efforts to meet the internationally agreed targets on malaria for 2010 and 2015;

21. *Calls upon* United Nations agencies and their partners to continue to provide the technical support necessary to build and enhance the planning and implementation capacity of Member States to meet the internationally agreed goals;

22. *Expresses its concern* about the increase in resistant strains of malaria in several regions of the world, and calls upon Member States, with support from the World Health Organization and other partners, to strengthen surveillance systems for drug and insecticide resistance and upon the World Health Organization to coordinate a global network for the monitoring of drug and insecticide resistance and to ensure that drug and insecticide testing is fully operational in order to enhance the use of current insecticide- and artemisinin-based combination therapies;

23. *Urges* all Member States experiencing resistance to conventional monotherapies to replace them with combination therapies, as recommended by the World Health Organization, and to develop the necessary financial, legislative and regulatory mechanisms in order to introduce artemisinin combination therapies at affordable prices and to prohibit the marketing of oral artemisinin monotherapies, in a timely manner;

24. *Recognizes* the importance of the development of safe and cost-effective vaccines and new medicines to prevent and treat malaria and the need for further and accelerated research, including into safe, effective and high-quality traditional therapies, using rigorous standards, including by providing support to the Special Programme for Research and Training in Tropical Diseases¹¹ and through effective global partnerships, such as the various malaria vaccine initiatives and the Medicines for Malaria Venture, where necessary stimulated by new incentives to secure their development and through effective and timely support towards pre-qualification of new antimalarials and their combinations;

25. *Calls upon* the international community, including through existing partnerships, to increase investment in and efforts towards the research and development of new, safe and affordable malaria-related medicines, products and technologies, such as vaccines, rapid diagnostic tests, insecticides and delivery modes, to prevent and treat malaria, especially for at-risk children and pregnant women, in order to enhance effectiveness and delay the onset of resistance;

26. *Calls upon* malaria-endemic countries to assure favourable conditions for research institutions, including allocation of adequate resources and development of national policies and legal frameworks, where appropriate, with a view to, inter alia, informing policy formulation and strategic interventions on malaria;

27. *Reaffirms* the right to use, to the fullest extent, the provisions contained in the World Trade Organization Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS Agreement),¹² the Doha Declaration on the

¹¹ A joint programme of the United Nations Children's Fund, the United Nations Development Programme, the World Bank and the World Health Organization.

¹² See *Legal Instruments Embodying the Results of the Uruguay Round of Multilateral Trade Negotiations*, done at Marrakesh on 15 April 1994 (GATT secretariat publication, Sales No. GATT/1994-7).

TRIPS Agreement and Public Health,¹³ the decision of the World Trade Organization's General Council of 30 August 2003¹⁴ and amendments to article 31 of the Agreement,¹⁵ which provide flexibilities for the protection of public health, and in particular to promote access to medicines for all, including the production, under compulsory licensing, of generic drugs in the prevention and treatment of malaria, and resolves to assist developing countries in this regard;

28. *Calls upon* the international community to support ways to expand access to and the affordability of key products, such as vector control measures, including indoor residual spraying, long-lasting insecticide-treated nets and artemisinin-based combination therapy for populations at risk of exposure to resistant strains of falciparum malaria in malaria-endemic countries, particularly in Africa, including through additional funds and innovative mechanisms, inter alia, for the financing and scaling up of artemisinin production and procurement, as appropriate, to meet the increased need;

29. *Welcomes* the increased level of public-private partnerships for malaria control and prevention, including the financial and in-kind contributions of private sector partners and companies operating in Africa, as well as the increased engagement of non-governmental service providers;

30. *Encourages* the producers of long-lasting insecticide-treated nets to accelerate technology transfer to developing countries, and the World Bank and regional development funds to consider supporting malaria-endemic countries in establishing factories to scale up production of long-lasting insecticide-treated nets;

31. *Calls upon* the international community and malaria-endemic countries, in accordance with existing guidelines and recommendations of the World Health Organization and the requirements of the Stockholm Convention to increase capacity for the safe, effective and judicious use of indoor residual spraying and other forms of vector control;

32. *Urges* the international community to become fully knowledgeable about World Health Organization technical policies and strategies and the provisions in the Stockholm Convention related to the use of DDT, including for indoor residual spraying, long-lasting insecticide-treated nets and case management, intermittent preventive treatment for pregnant women and monitoring of in vivo resistance studies to artemisinin-based combination therapy treatment, so that projects support those policies, strategies and provisions;

33. *Requests* the World Health Organization, the United Nations Children's Fund and donor agencies to provide support to those countries which choose to use DDT for indoor residual spraying so as to ensure that it is implemented in accordance with international rules, standards and guidelines, and to provide all possible support to malaria-endemic countries to manage the intervention effectively and prevent the contamination, in particular, of agricultural products with DDT and other insecticides used for indoor residual spraying;

34. *Encourages* the World Health Organization and its member States, with the support of the parties to the Stockholm Convention, to continue to explore possible alternatives to DDT as a vector control agent;

¹³ World Trade Organization, document WT/MIN(01)/DEC/2. Available from <http://docsonline.wto.org>.

¹⁴ See World Trade Organization, document WT/L/540 and Corr.1. Available from <http://docsonline.wto.org>.

¹⁵ See World Trade Organization, document WT/L/641. Available from <http://docsonline.wto.org>.

35. *Calls upon* malaria-endemic countries to encourage regional and intersectoral collaboration, both public and private, at all levels, especially in education, health, agriculture, economic development and the environment, to advance malaria control objectives;

36. *Calls upon* the international community to support increased interventions, in line with the Global Malaria Action Plan and the recommendations of the World Health Organization and the Roll Back Malaria Partnership, in order to ensure their rapid, efficient and effective implementation, to strengthen health systems and national pharmaceutical policies, to monitor and fight against the trade in counterfeit antimalarial medicines and prevent the distribution and use of them, and to support coordinated efforts, inter alia, by providing technical assistance to improve surveillance, monitoring and evaluation systems and their alignment with national plans and systems so as to better track and report changes in coverage, the need for scaling up recommended interventions and the subsequent reductions in the burden of malaria;

37. *Urges* Member States, the international community and all relevant actors, including the private sector, to promote the coordinated implementation and enhance the quality of malaria-related activities, including via the Roll Back Malaria Partnership, in accordance with national policies and operational plans that are consistent with the technical recommendations of the World Health Organization and recent efforts and initiatives, including, where appropriate, the Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness and the Accra Agenda for Action, adopted during the Third High-level Forum on Aid Effectiveness, held in Accra from 2 to 4 September 2008;¹⁶

38. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in close collaboration with the Director-General of the World Health Organization and in consultation with Member States, to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-fourth session an evaluation report on progress achieved towards the internationally agreed targets for 2010, including funding and implementation of activities necessary to reach those targets.

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22 December 2008*

¹⁶ A/63/539, annex.



General Assembly

Distr.: General
17 March 2009Sixty-third session
Agenda item 107**Resolution adopted by the General Assembly***[without reference to a Main Committee (A/63/L.64 and Add.1)]***63/235. Agriculture development and food security***The General Assembly,*

Recalling the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development,¹ Agenda 21,² the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21,³ the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development⁴ and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development ("Johannesburg Plan of Implementation"),⁵ the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development,⁶ the 2005 World Summit Outcome⁷ and the Doha Declaration on Financing for Development: outcome document of the Follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development to Review the Implementation of the Monterrey Consensus,⁸

Reaffirming the goal set out in paragraph 19 of the United Nations Millennium Declaration,⁹ to halve, by 2015, the proportion of the world's people whose income is less than one dollar a day and the proportion of people who suffer from hunger,

Recalling the Rome Declaration on World Food Security and the World Food Summit Plan of Action,¹⁰ the Declaration of the World Food Summit: five years later,¹¹ including the goal of achieving food security for all through an ongoing effort to eradicate hunger in all countries, with an immediate view to reducing by

¹ *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution I, annex I.

² *Ibid.*, annex II.

³ Resolution S-19/2, annex.

⁴ *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August-4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution I, annex.

⁵ *Ibid.*, resolution 2, annex.

⁶ *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18-22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution I, annex.

⁷ See resolution 60/1.

⁸ Resolution 63/239, annex.

⁹ See resolution 55/2.

¹⁰ Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, *Report of the World Food Summit, 13-17 November 1996* (WFS 96/REP), part one, appendix.

¹¹ Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, *Report of the World Food Summit: five years later, 10-13 June 2002*, part one, appendix; see also A/57/499, annex.

half the number of undernourished people by no later than 2015, as well as the commitment to achieving the Millennium Development Goals,

Recognizing that agriculture plays a crucial role in addressing the needs of a growing global population and is inextricably linked to poverty eradication, especially in developing countries, and stressing that integrated and sustainable agriculture and rural development approaches are therefore essential to achieving enhanced food security and food safety in an environmentally sustainable way,

Emphasizing the urgent need to increase efforts at the national, regional and international level to address food security and agriculture development as part of the international development agenda,

Remaining concerned that high and volatile food prices and the global food crisis pose a serious challenge to the fight against poverty and hunger, as well as to the efforts of developing countries to attain food security and achieve the objective of reducing by half the number of undernourished people by no later than 2015 as well as other internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, and reiterating that the global food crisis has multiple and complex causes and that its consequences require a comprehensive and coordinated response in the short, medium and long term by national Governments and the international community,

Welcoming the holding of the High-level Conference on World Food Security: the Challenges of Climate Change and Bioenergy, from 3 to 5 June 2008 in Rome, and acknowledging the initiative of the Secretary-General in establishing the High-level Task Force on the Global Food Security Crisis, which has produced the Comprehensive Framework for Action,¹² as well as other multilateral, regional and national initiatives,

Taking note with appreciation of the work undertaken by relevant international bodies and organizations, including the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the International Fund for Agricultural Development and the World Food Programme, on agriculture development and enhancing food security and by the Commission on Sustainable Development on the thematic cluster of issues on agriculture, rural development, land, drought, desertification and Africa,

Emphasizing that the United Nations can play an effective role in building a global consensus in addressing agriculture development and food security,

1. *Reiterates* the need to adequately and urgently address agriculture development and food security in the context of national and international development policies;
2. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-fourth session an item entitled "Agriculture development and food security", to be taken up by the Second Committee;
3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-fourth session a report on national, regional and international efforts within the context of the present resolution, under the item entitled "Agriculture development and food security", in close cooperation and coordination with United Nations relevant bodies and organizations.

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22 December 2008*

¹² Available from www.un.org/issues/food/taskforce/cfa.shtml.



General Assembly

Distr.: General
17 March 2009

Sixty-third session
Agenda item 114 (k)

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

[without reference to a Main Committee (A/63/L.59 and Add.1)]

63/236. Cooperation between the United Nations and the International Organization of la Francophonie

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 33/18 of 10 November 1978, 50/3 of 16 October 1995, 52/2 of 17 October 1997, 54/25 of 15 November 1999, 56/45 of 7 December 2001, 57/43 of 21 November 2002, 59/22 of 8 November 2004 and 61/7 of 20 October 2006, as well as its decision 53/453 of 18 December 1998,

Recalling also its resolution 61/266 of 16 May 2007 on multilingualism,

Considering that the International Organization of la Francophonie brings together a considerable number of States Members of the United Nations, among which it promotes multilateral cooperation in areas of interest to the United Nations,

Bearing in mind the Articles of the Charter of the United Nations which encourage the promotion of the purposes and principles of the United Nations through regional cooperation,

Bearing in mind also that, according to the Charter of la Francophonie adopted on 23 November 2005 at the Ministerial Conference of la Francophonie, held in Antananarivo, the objectives of the International Organization of la Francophonie are to assist in the establishment and development of democracy, the prevention, management and settlement of conflicts and support for the rule of law and for human rights, the intensification of dialogue between cultures and civilizations, the establishment of closer ties among peoples through mutual knowledge and strengthening of their solidarity through multilateral cooperation activities with a view to promoting the growth of their economies, and the promotion of education and training,

Welcoming the steps taken by the International Organization of la Francophonie to strengthen its ties with the organizations of the United Nations system and with international and regional organizations with a view to attaining its objectives,

Noting with satisfaction the commitment to multilateral cooperation for peace, good governance and the rule of law, economic governance and solidarity, the environment, sustainable development, and climate change, undertaken by Heads of State and Government of countries using French as a common language, at their

twelfth summit, held in Quebec City, Canada, from 17 to 19 October 2008, and their determination to work together to bring about, through targeted action, added value in these areas.

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of resolution 61/7,¹

Noting with satisfaction the substantial progress achieved in cooperation between the United Nations, the specialized agencies and other United Nations bodies and programmes and the International Organization of la Francophonie,

Convinced that strengthening cooperation between the United Nations and the International Organization of la Francophonie serves the purposes and principles of the United Nations,

Noting the desire of the two organizations to consolidate, develop and strengthen the ties that exist between them in the political, economic, social and cultural fields,

1. *Takes note with satisfaction* of the report of the Secretary-General,¹ and welcomes the increasingly close and productive cooperation between the United Nations and the International Organization of la Francophonie;

2. *Notes with satisfaction* that the International Organization of la Francophonie participates actively in the work of the United Nations, to which it makes a valuable contribution;

3. *Notes with great satisfaction* the initiatives taken by the International Organization of la Francophonie in the areas of conflict prevention, the promotion of peace and support for democracy, the rule of law and human rights, in accordance with the commitments reaffirmed at the Ministerial Conference of la Francophonie on Conflict Prevention and Human Security, held on 13 and 14 May 2006 in Saint Boniface, Canada, and commends it on the genuine contribution it makes, in cooperation with the United Nations, in Haiti, the Comoros, Côte d'Ivoire, Burundi, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, the Central African Republic and Chad;

4. *Welcomes* the initiation of cooperation between the United Nations and the International Organization of la Francophonie, with the participation of other regional and subregional organizations, as well as non-governmental organizations, in the fields of early warning and conflict prevention, and encourages the pursuit of this initiative with a view to formulating practical recommendations to facilitate the establishment of relevant operational mechanisms, where necessary;

5. *Expresses its gratitude* to the International Organization of la Francophonie for the steps it has taken in recent years to promote cultural and linguistic diversity and dialogue between cultures and civilizations;

6. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the Secretary-General of the International Organization of la Francophonie for their sustained efforts to strengthen cooperation and coordination between the two organizations, thereby serving their mutual interests in the political, economic, social and cultural fields;

7. *Welcomes* the strengthened cooperation between the International Organization of la Francophonie and the Department of Peacekeeping Operations of

¹ See A/63/228-S/2008/531 and Corr.1, sect. II.J.

the Secretariat with a view to increasing the number of French-speaking personnel in United Nations peacekeeping operations;

8. *Also welcomes* the fact that the twelfth summit of la Francophonie led to concrete commitments to address the food and energy crisis, to strengthen the capacity of francophone States in the area of peacekeeping, to support efforts by international financial institutions to develop norms and codes that could be readily adopted by member States, and to mobilize all efforts and all the political will of member States to ratify the international instruments relating to the environment, and invites the United Nations to actively collaborate with the International Organization of la Francophonie and its members to meet these commitments;

9. *Further welcomes* the involvement of the countries that use French as a common language, particularly through the International Organization of la Francophonie, in the preparation for, conduct of and follow-up to international conferences organized under United Nations auspices;

10. *Welcomes* the high-level meetings held periodically between the United Nations Secretariat and the Secretariat of the International Organization of la Francophonie, and advocates the participation of the secretariats in major meetings of the two organizations;

11. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Secretary-General for including the International Organization of la Francophonie in the periodic meetings he holds with heads of regional organizations, and invites him to continue doing so, taking into account the role played by the International Organization of la Francophonie in conflict prevention and support for democracy and the rule of law;

12. *Notes with satisfaction* the continued collaboration between the United Nations and the International Organization of la Francophonie in the area of electoral monitoring and assistance, and advocates the strengthening of cooperation between the two organizations in that area;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General of the United Nations, acting in cooperation with the Secretary-General of the International Organization of la Francophonie, to encourage the holding of periodic meetings between representatives of the United Nations Secretariat and representatives of the Secretariat of the International Organization of la Francophonie in order to promote the exchange of information, coordination of activities and identification of new areas of cooperation;

14. *Welcomes* the participation of the International Organization of la Francophonie in the Peacebuilding Commission's work on Burundi, Guinea-Bissau and the Central African Republic, and strongly encourages the International Organization of la Francophonie and the Peacebuilding Commission to continue to cooperate actively;

15. *Invites* the Secretary-General of the United Nations to take the necessary steps, in consultation with the Secretary-General of the International Organization of la Francophonie, to continue to promote cooperation between the two organizations;

16. *Invites* the specialized agencies and the funds and programmes of the United Nations system, as well as the regional commissions, including the Economic Commission for Africa, to collaborate to this end with the Secretary-General of the International Organization of la Francophonie by identifying new synergies in favour of development, in particular in the areas of poverty elimination,

energy, sustainable development, education, training and the development of new information technologies;

17. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

18. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-fifth session the sub-item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and the International Organization of la Francophonie".

*73rd plenary meeting
22 December 2008*



General Assembly

Distr.: General
17 March 2009

Sixty-third session
Agenda item 155

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

[without reference to a Main Committee (A/63/L.63 and Add 1)]

63/237. Recognition of sickle-cell anaemia as a public health problem

The General Assembly,

Recognizing the need to promote better physical and mental health, bearing in mind the Universal Declaration of Human Rights¹ and other relevant human rights instruments,

Welcoming World Health Assembly resolution 59.20 of 27 May 2006² and resolution 22 of the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization of 19 October 2005,³ and taking note of decision Assembly/AU/Dec.81 (V) adopted by the Assembly of the African Union at its fifth ordinary session, held in Sirte, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, on 4 and 5 July 2005,⁴

Recognizing that sickle-cell anaemia is one of the world's foremost genetic diseases, that it has severe physical, psychological and social consequences for those affected and their families, and that in its homozygote form it is one of the most lethal genetic diseases,

Aware of the need for greater international cooperation, including through partnerships, to facilitate access to education, management, surveillance and treatment for sickle-cell anaemia,

Recognizing that proper management of sickle-cell anaemia will contribute to an appreciable decrease in mortality from malaria and in the risk of HIV infection,

Recalling the Abuja Declaration on Roll Back Malaria in Africa of 25 April 2000⁵ and the global "Roll Back Malaria" initiative,

¹ Resolution 217 A (III).

² See World Health Organization, *Fifty-ninth World Health Assembly, Geneva, 22-27 May 2006, Resolutions and Decisions, Annexes (WHA59/2006/REC/1)*.

³ See United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, *Records of the General Conference, Thirty-third Session, Paris, 3-21 October 2005*, vol. 1: *Resolutions*, chap. V.

⁴ See African Union, documents Assembly/AU/Dec. 73-90 (V), Assembly/AU/Decl. 1-3 (V) and Assembly/AU/Resolution 1 (V).

⁵ See A/55/240/Add. I, annex.

Taking note of the reports of the first, second and third international congresses of the Sickle Cell Disease International Organization, held in Paris on 25 and 26 January 2002, in Cotonou from 20 to 23 January 2004 and in Dakar from 22 to 24 November 2006, respectively, and the report of the first global consultations on sickle-cell anaemia, held in Brazzaville from 14 to 17 June 2005,

Recognizing that education, information and communication technologies should play a crucial role in preventing sickle-cell anaemia and that there is an urgent need to create effective research and training programmes in the countries most affected by this disease,

1. *Recognizes* that sickle-cell anaemia is a public health problem;
2. *Underlines* the need to raise public awareness about sickle-cell anaemia and to eliminate harmful prejudices associated with the disease;
3. *Urges* Member States and the organizations of the United Nations system to raise awareness of sickle-cell anaemia on 19 June each year at the national and international levels;
4. *Encourages* Member States, as well as United Nations agencies, funds and programmes, international institutions and development partners, to support health systems and primary health-care delivery, including efforts to improve the management of sickle-cell anaemia;
5. *Invites* Member States, international organizations and civil society to support the efforts being made to combat sickle-cell anaemia, including as part of health-system strengthening efforts, in the various development programmes, and to encourage basic and applied research on the disease;
6. *Urges* the Member States in which sickle-cell anaemia is a public health problem to establish national programmes and specialized centres for the treatment of sickle-cell anaemia and to facilitate access to treatment;
7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to bring the présent resolution to the attention of all Member States and organizations of the United Nations system.

*73rd plenary meeting
22 December 2008*



General Assembly

Distr.: General
17 March 2009

Sixty-third session
Agenda item 3 (b)

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

[without reference to a Main Committee (A/63/633)]

63/238. Credentials of representatives to the sixty-third session of the General Assembly

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Credentials Committee¹ and the recommendation contained therein,

Approves the report of the Credentials Committee.

*74th plenary meeting
23 December 2008*

¹ A/63/633.